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HOUSE MEMORIAL 47

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

INTRODUCED BY

George Dodge, Jr.

A MEMORIAL

ENCOURAGING STATE AGENCIES TO SEEK A STRONGER ROLE IN WORKING WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

WHEREAS, since 2009, the United States department of agriculture has made more than ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000) in investments in New Mexico in economic development, agriculture, trade, infrastructure, conservation and research; and

WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is critical to the success of state food and nutrition programs by financing school breakfasts, lunches and snacks to thousands of children and to seniors across the state every day; and

WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture's natural resources conservation service makes critical investments in the sustainability of New Mexico's land, water

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1 and air; and

2 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture rural  
3 development finances dozens of community water and wastewater  
4 systems, with a special emphasis on tribal and colonias  
5 projects; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture helps  
7 sustain existing farmers and ranchers and is working to support  
8 young farmers and ranchers through its farm service agency; and

9 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is  
10 the largest public investor in broadband telecommunication in  
11 New Mexico and offers millions of dollars in support annually  
12 for New Mexico rural electric cooperatives; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture works  
14 to support housing in New Mexico through home-repair, home-loan  
15 and home-loan-guarantee programs; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture  
17 supports local farmers' markets, supports New Mexico products  
18 overseas and markets New Mexico products worldwide; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture is  
20 currently engaged with dozens of New Mexico communities by  
21 offering economic development planning and local investments in  
22 health care facilities, telemedicine, distance learning and  
23 other crucial areas;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that state agencies

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1 be encouraged to seek a stronger role in partnering with the  
2 United States department of agriculture in supporting  
3 agriculture, rural development, water, infrastructure, energy  
4 and broadband; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies be encouraged  
6 to develop closer contact with the United States department of  
7 agriculture to better understand how department funding can be  
8 used to leverage state projects; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each appropriate cabinet  
10 agency be requested to develop a plan with the United States  
11 department of agriculture for potential state project funding;  
12 and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each appropriate cabinet  
14 agency report its funding plan to the appropriate interim  
15 legislative committee; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the director of the New Mexico department of  
18 agriculture, the United States secretary of agriculture, the  
19 director of the New Mexico state office of the United States  
20 department of agriculture rural development and the office of  
21 the governor for appropriate distribution to state agencies.