

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 3

2 **55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
12 STATES TO WAIVE THE SUSPENSION OF NEW OIL AND GAS LEASING AND  
13 DRILLING PERMITS FOR FEDERAL LANDS.

14  
15 WHEREAS, on January 20, 2021, the administration of  
16 President Joe Biden temporarily suspended oil and gas  
17 permitting on federal lands and waters for sixty days; and

18 WHEREAS, oil and gas extracted from public lands account  
19 for about one-fourth of annual United States production; and

20 WHEREAS, limits on federal drilling will have the biggest  
21 impact on major western oil- and gas-producing states like New  
22 Mexico and Wyoming, which depend on revenue from their share of  
23 extraction royalties; and

24 WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry in New Mexico provides  
25 over forty percent of the revenues in the state's budget; and

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1           WHEREAS, currently, New Mexico ranks third in the nation  
2 in oil production and ninth in the nation in natural gas  
3 production; and

4           WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry in New Mexico provides  
5 tens of thousands of high-paying jobs to New Mexico residents;  
6 and

7           WHEREAS, the New Mexico oil and gas association stated  
8 that restricting development "risks the loss of more than sixty  
9 thousand jobs and eight hundred million dollars (\$800,000,000)  
10 in support for our public schools, first responders and  
11 healthcare services";

12           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that a waiver be requested of President Joe  
14 Biden's administration to the recent sixty-day suspension of  
15 new oil and gas leasing and drilling permits for federal lands  
16 in New Mexico; and

17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to President Joe Biden, United States secretary of  
19 the interior designee Deb Haaland and members of the United  
20 States house of representatives and senate.