

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 49

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Phil A. Griego

5
6
7
8
9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO MAKE USE OF WOOD
12 CHIPS THAT ARE A BYPRODUCT OF TREES BEING TRIMMED AND CUT IN
13 NEW MEXICO.

14
15 WHEREAS, wood chips are a byproduct of trees being cut and
16 trimmed in New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, wood chips are a sustainable resource with a
18 history of being wasted and clogging the state's landfills; and

19 WHEREAS, wood chips are hugely beneficial to New Mexico's
20 environment because they compost and provide food and
21 beneficial fungi to existing plants; and

22 WHEREAS, wood chips make great roadside weed barriers and
23 are a critical element in landscape projects; and

24 WHEREAS, wood chips, as they decompose, create a
25 biological product that is one of the necessary building blocks

.191773.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 for the root systems of trees and other greenery; and

2 WHEREAS, trees are almost completely responsible for the
3 air quality in New Mexico as they take carbon dioxide from the
4 air, retain the carbon and release pure oxygen back into the
5 air; and

6 WHEREAS, water resources are at a premium in New Mexico,
7 and wood chips help conserve and protect ground water from
8 evaporation; and

9 WHEREAS, each year in New Mexico, millions of gallons of
10 water are stripped from uncovered soil by wind; and

11 WHEREAS, wood chips help soil retain moisture by
12 protecting that moisture from being evaporated by New Mexico's
13 arid winds; and

14 WHEREAS, wood chips may be made available to the state at
15 no cost from tree companies working in New Mexico;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of transportation be
18 requested to make every effort to use wood chips in projects
19 involving the construction, maintenance and landscaping of
20 roads and highways throughout the state; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of
23 transportation.

24 - 2 -

25