

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8

2 54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE STATE PARKS DIVISION OF THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND
12 NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO COLLABORATE WITH FEDERAL,
13 STATE, TRIBAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO COORDINATE
14 SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PECOS CANYON IN SAN MIGUEL
15 COUNTY.

16
17 WHEREAS, the Pecos canyon north of the village of Pecos in
18 San Miguel county is one of New Mexico's most scenic and
19 popular recreational areas; and

20 WHEREAS, this portion of the Pecos canyon contains an
21 outstanding diversity of resources with local and national
22 significance, including areas of scientific, aesthetic,
23 geologic, natural, cultural and recreational value; and

24 WHEREAS, the Pecos canyon area receives several thousand
25 visitors a year for tourism, recreational activities and the

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1 enjoyment of the protection of the canyon's natural settings;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the village of Pecos, local business
4 associations, the upper Pecos watershed, state parks, the
5 department of game and fish, the United States forest service,
6 the national park service, San Miguel county, the congressional
7 delegation and other interested partners are working together
8 to promote the Pecos canyon for the good of New Mexico, the
9 village of Pecos and San Miguel county; and

10 WHEREAS, residents of San Miguel county and visitors from
11 the region frequent the Pecos canyon as a recreational
12 destination and have done so for many years, and the influx of
13 people and use of the area as a recreational site provide
14 substantial revenue and recognition for the village of Pecos,
15 San Miguel county and the state of New Mexico; and

16 WHEREAS, state legislators and elected officials of the
17 village of Pecos and San Miguel county have supported
18 legislation to fund planning efforts aimed at identifying
19 improvements required to accommodate the use of the Pecos
20 canyon as a recreational area while maintaining the surrounding
21 natural beauty and quality of water and preserving wildlife in
22 the area; and

23 WHEREAS, investments in the Pecos canyon could help foster
24 sustainable communities and enhance the economic impacts for
25 the region and the state, while maintaining healthy communities

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1 and promoting environmental stewardship in our state parks and
2 New Mexico;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state parks division of the
5 energy, minerals and natural resources department be requested
6 to work with all applicable federal and state agencies and
7 local governments, tribes and interested stakeholders to
8 develop a Pecos canyon recreation strategic and comprehensive
9 plan for infrastructure, programing and recreational
10 activities; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the energy, minerals and
12 natural resources department be requested to report its
13 findings and recommendations to the appropriate interim
14 committees of the legislature by November 1, 2019; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
17 resources, the director of the state parks division of the
18 energy, minerals and natural resources department and members
19 of the New Mexico congressional delegation.