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SENATE MEMORIAL 48

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

INTRODUCED BY

Clemente Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING AN INTERIM LEGISLATIVE STUDY OF THE THEFT OF  
MERCHANDISE SHELLS AND PALLETS.

WHEREAS, last year, approximately one hundred thousand  
merchandise shells and pallets, both wood and plastic, were  
stolen from the members of the New Mexico beverage association  
with a replacement value in excess of two million five hundred  
thousand dollars (\$2,500,000); and

WHEREAS, the food and beverage industry must pay the cost  
of replacing these valuable products and ultimately pass these  
costs along to consumers; and

WHEREAS, thousands of stolen merchandise shells and  
pallets are found in recycling facilities clearly identified  
and stamped with company names; and

WHEREAS, recycling companies in New Mexico are currently

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1 not required to obtain the identity of the sellers; and

2 WHEREAS, other states, such as Texas, Ohio and Michigan,  
3 have passed legislation requiring recyclers to obtain the  
4 identity of anyone selling more than ten beverage industry  
5 shells and pallets; and

6 WHEREAS, other states require recyclers to retain seller  
7 information for one year in order for law enforcement to  
8 investigate potential stolen goods;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the appropriate interim legislative  
11 committee be requested to explore issues related to theft of  
12 merchandise shells and pallets in New Mexico; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
14 transmitted to the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative  
15 council.

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