



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

48th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2008

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 13, as amended

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE JIM R. TRUJILLO AND REPRESENTATIVE DEBBIE A. RODELLA

REPRESENTATIVE LUCIANO "LUCKY" VARELA
REPRESENTATIVE NICK L. SALAZAR
REPRESENTATIVE MIGUEL P. GARCIA



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO DIRECT THE
3 APPROPRIATE INTERIM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY POSSIBLE
4 REGULATION OF THE PROPANE GAS INDUSTRY BY THE PUBLIC
5 REGULATION COMMISSION.

6
7 WHEREAS, rising fuel costs across the country are of
8 increasing concern to the public, especially low-income
9 persons in rural areas of New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, many low-income persons in the rural areas
11 depend on propane gas as an energy source to heat their homes
12 in the winter; and

13 WHEREAS, it is necessary that those New Mexicans who are
14 most vulnerable to the high costs of fuel be protected; and

15 WHEREAS, the propane gas industry and the rates charged
16 for propane gas services are not currently regulated by the
17 public regulation commission; and

18 WHEREAS, including the propane gas industry under the
19 Public Utility Act would provide the public regulation
20 commission with authority over entities manufacturing,
21 storing, selling, or distributing propane gas in enclosed
22 containers or tank trucks for use by consumers, except
23 consumers who receive their supply through any pipeline system
24 operating under municipal authority; and

25 WHEREAS, oversight of the propane gas industry by the

1 public regulation commission would ensure that New Mexicans,
2 particularly low-income New Mexicans, are paying fair prices
3 for propane gas;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
6 legislative council be requested to direct the appropriate
7 interim legislative committee to study possible regulation of
8 the propane gas industry by the public regulation commission;
9 and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include a review
11 of the following:

12 A. the relationship between the low income home
13 energy assistance program and the propane industry;

14 B. current regulation of propane installations by
15 the construction industries division of the regulation and
16 licensing department; and

17 C. liability issues associated with the propane
18 industry; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate interim
20 legislative committee be directed to hold a hearing on the
21 issue by November 1, 2008; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the New Mexico legislative council and the
24 chair of the public regulation commission.

S/ BEN LUJAN
BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

S/ STEPHEN R. ARIAS
STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES