

The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

48th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2008

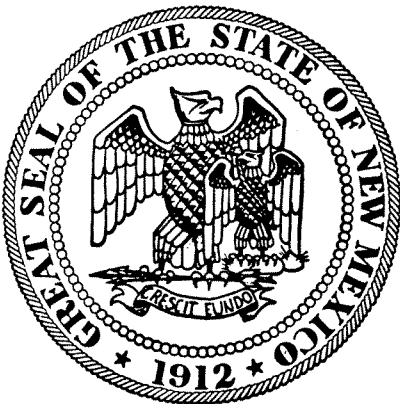
CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 43, as amended

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL C. BANDY

REPRESENTATIVE LARRY A. LARRAÑAGA
REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS C. TAYLOR
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES R. J. STRICKLER



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE NAVAJO WATER RIGHTS
3 SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATED BY NEW MEXICO AND THE NAVAJO NATION.

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5 WHEREAS, resolution of the Navajo water rights claims is
6 to the advantage of the state of New Mexico, the Navajo Nation
7 and the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, the New Mexico interstate stream commission and
9 the Navajo Nation negotiated a proposed settlement, which has
10 been submitted to congress; and

11 WHEREAS, the proposed settlement calls for increased
12 diversions to Navajo lands near Shiprock; and

13 WHEREAS, the priority date of these diversions, 1868, is
14 significantly older than non-Navajo rights; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico is subject to frequent drought,
16 creating water shortages that would be borne by non-Navajos;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Navajo lake has extensive storage capacity that
19 could be used to offset these shortages;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
21 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that congress be
22 requested to approve the proposed Navajo water rights
23 settlement as negotiated by New Mexico and the Navajo Nation;
24 and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as part of the settlement,

1 congress be requested to support provisions for storage of up
2 to thirty thousand acre-feet of water in Navajo lake to be
3 used by non-Navajo irrigators in times of severe drought and
4 water shortages; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the
7 Navajo Nation and the governor.

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S/ BEN LUJAN
BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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