

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE NEW MEXICO BIKEPACKING
3 NETWORK IN THE PROMOTION OF NEW MEXICO OUTDOOR RECREATION.

4
5 WHEREAS, bikepacking is a combination of cycling and
6 camping; and

7 WHEREAS, bikepacking touring is generally done off-road
8 on ultralight bicycles with bags that mount directly to the
9 bicycle, and riders cover significant distances when
10 bikepacking; and

11 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network was created
12 by a grassroots coalition of cyclists from southern and
13 northern New Mexico, and its development and promotion is not
14 funded or guided by special interests but by the residents
15 who enjoy and use New Mexico's public lands; and

16 WHEREAS, the mission of the New Mexico bikepacking
17 network is to link northern New Mexico border towns to the
18 southern border of the United States by utilizing routes that
19 are currently being traveled, and that extend the length of
20 New Mexico; and

21 WHEREAS, several New Mexico bikepacking loops already
22 exist: the monumental loop in southern New Mexico, the New
23 Mexico off-road runner parallel to the Rio Grande, the Chama
24 charmer, the Valles Caldera super volcano explorer and a
25 night on the Caja del Rio; and

1 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network endeavors to
2 connect diverse and majestic New Mexican landmarks, whether
3 they are natural or cultural landscapes, including four
4 national forests, one national wildlife refuge, two national
5 monuments and countless points of interest and historical
6 landmarks; and

7 WHEREAS, the proposed network would contain almost one
8 thousand four hundred fifty miles of New Mexico roads and
9 trails that would allow access to all of New Mexico's natural
10 landscapes; and

11 WHEREAS, the proposed route of the New Mexico
12 bikepacking network would travel through multiple government
13 jurisdictions, many local communities and approximately
14 seventeen counties; and

15 WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced to create a
16 state office of outdoor recreation; and

17 WHEREAS, the proposed New Mexico backpacking network
18 would be a premier attraction of an office of outdoor
19 recreation, which seeks to further bolster an economic sector
20 that already generates nine billion nine hundred million
21 dollars (\$9,900,000,000) in annual consumer spending and an
22 estimated ninety-nine thousand jobs, according to the outdoor
23 industry association; and

24 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network would
25 provide excellent potential for diverse economic development

1 to communities and small business along its route; and

2 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network also
3 proposes to be an incubator for programs aimed at providing
4 access and experiences to promote a genuine connection to
5 public lands; and

6 WHEREAS, cyclists, campers, hikers, equestrians and
7 other users would also benefit from a statewide network of
8 trails that can be enjoyed free from fossil fuels and that
9 connects one community to the next; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network aims to
11 promote conservation and bring awareness to the preservation
12 of New Mexico's history and culture; and

13 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network plans to
14 promote and celebrate all of New Mexico's cultural treasures,
15 industries that serve the state and every community that is
16 represented within New Mexico's boundaries; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Mexico bikepacking network will be an
18 important, unique, natural and community-driven asset, and
19 will promote and strengthen New Mexico's communities, economy
20 and identity;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New
23 Mexico bikepacking network be recognized for its
24 contributions in the promotion of New Mexico outdoor
25 recreation; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of economic development, the secretary of tourism and the New Mexico bikepacking network. HM 10
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