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HOUSE MEMORIAL 50

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

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO ANALYZE THE BENEFITS OF PURCHASING THE RATON PASS TRAIN TRACKS.

WHEREAS, the railroad tracks from Raton pass to Anthony are a great ready-made asset for the state; and

WHEREAS, ownership of the tracks could be an economic benefit to the state by serving the public and providing a financial investment return; and

WHEREAS, the tracks are an excellent complement to the state's other transportation networks, and owning the tracks could position the state to ride the coming rebirth of passenger and freight railways; and

WHEREAS, modern rails generate many economic, environmental and social benefits, including fuel and energy economy; long vehicle life; long right-of-way life; easier

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1 security through deployment of law enforcement; thrifty use of  
2 land and materials; sensible development; historic  
3 preservation; usefulness to people of all ages, ethnicities and  
4 economic status; compatibility with renewable energy; reduced  
5 vehicle tire disposal; and smooth, safe, timely rides; and

6 WHEREAS, the state is very close to realizing all of the  
7 above benefits if it makes use of the over four hundred miles  
8 of tracks already in place;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the economic  
11 development department be requested to conduct a market  
12 analysis to examine the potential economic and job creation  
13 benefits of the state purchasing the railroad tracks from Raton  
14 pass to Anthony; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the secretary of economic development.