

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. M-20-7 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Cynthia D. Borrego

1 MEMORIAL

2 URGING STATE LEGISLATORS TO ADOPT POLICIES AND STRATEGIES TO
3 ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AT UPCOMING NEW MEXICO STATE
4 LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

5 WHEREAS, legislative efforts to address climate change are taking place at
6 all levels of government, including the local, state, national, and international
7 scale; and

8 WHEREAS, adopting legislation to address climate change at the local and
9 state levels also has significant economic and social benefits, including but
10 not limited to growing the clean energy economy, creating new jobs,
11 improving public health, and building more resilient communities; and

12 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque has enacted a wide variety of
13 legislation and implemented numerous strategies to address climate change
14 in both the private and public sectors since the creation of Albuquerque's
15 Climate Action Task Force in 2008; and

16 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque recognizes that climate change
17 compounds existing inequities, and that cities and states around the country
18 that have been the most impacted by climate change are those best able to
19 develop solutions; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2009 the City of Albuquerque produced a Climate Action
21 Plan (CAP) that included input from citizens of the community and addressed
22 carbon offset strategies, carbon neutral buildings, livable neighborhoods,
23 renewable energy, local agriculture, zero waste, and transportation; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2019 the City of Albuquerque enacted a Resolution
25 endorsing the declaration of a Climate Emergency and revisited the Climate
26 Action Plan that was originally produced in 2009; and

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1 WHEREAS, since 2019 the Climate Action Plan Task Force has been
2 meeting regularly to provide input on strategies for implementation of the
3 CAP, some of which could be implemented at the state level; and

4 WHEREAS, one way that New Mexico has already started taking action to
5 address climate change was becoming a member of the United States Climate
6 Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of 25 governors committed to reducing
7 greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, in 2019 Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed a climate
10 executive order that established New Mexico as a member of the United States
11 Climate Alliance and set a statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of
12 45% below 2005 levels by 2030; and

13 WHEREAS, other southwest states like California, Colorado, and Nevada
14 are also members of the United States Climate Alliance that have been
15 enacting policy to address climate change on both a short-term and long-term
16 basis; and

17 WHEREAS, states like California are now demonstrating impressive
18 outcomes from the implementation of their climate policies; and

19 WHEREAS, according to the United State Climate Alliance 2019 Fact Sheet,
20 since 2014 California climate investments have preserved or restored over
21 500,000 acres of land, contracted for over 3,200 units of affordable housing,
22 sprouted 50,000 urban trees, and installed 110,000 efficiency measures in
23 homes statewide; and

24 WHEREAS, states are showing the nation and the world that ambitious
25 climate action is achievable and that despite the United State federal
26 government’s decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, states are
27 committed to supporting the international agreement, and are pursuing
28 aggressive climate action to make progress toward its goals; and

29 WHEREAS, it is both the responsibility and the opportunity of state
30 legislators to revisit legislation at legislative sessions with the aim of
31 strengthening policies and strategies that address climate change on a
32 systemic level.

1 **BE IT MEMORIALIZED BY COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**
2 **ALBUQUERQUE**

3 **Section 1. The City Council reaffirms its commitment to addressing climate**
4 **change.**

5 **Section 2. The City Council calls on the New Mexico State Legislature to**
6 **review and strengthen state policies and strategies that address climate**
7 **change at upcoming State Legislative Session.**

8 **Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to send a letter and an email to each**
9 **member of the state legislative delegation with a copy of this memorial.**

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