



Action Alert

Tell the Senate Rules Committee You Want Them to Support Your Right to Clean Air, Pure Water, a Stable Climate & Healthy Environments

Vote "Yes" on SJR 3

SJR 3 Environmental Rights Act -- AKA The New Mexico Green Amendment -- proposes to amend our New Mexico Bill of Rights to include an enforceable right of all people, including future generations, to clean air, pure water, a stable climate and healthy environments. In addition, the proposed amendment will:

- ensure government is focused on prevention of pollution and degradation throughout decisionmaking.
- provide protection for the cultural indigenous values of our environment, and will recognize the essential health protections that are provided by clean water and air, healthy soils and ecosystems.
- provide a powerful tool for strengthening environmental justice by ensuring the environmental rights of all people – regardless of race, ethnicity, wealth, address, or generation – are protected equitably across the state.
- ensure all government officials respect and protect our environmental rights including the legislators, governor, town councils and regulatory agencies.
- give residents legal redress to secure restoration of their environmental rights if they are infringed upon by government action and/or inaction.

For this amendment to pass it needs to receive early support from the Senate Rules Committee, after which it will proceed to the Senate Judiciary Committee for consideration and a vote.

Please join us in telling the Senate Rules Committee to hold a hearing and vote "yes" on SJR3, the New Mexico Green Amendment.

Reach out to the Rules Committee by phone or email. The more personal your message the better but if helpful we provide some phone and email talking points below.

Rules Committee Members are:

- ✓ Daniel A. Ivey-Soto (D), Chair, 505-397-8830, daniel.ivey-soto@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Katy M. Duhigg (D), Vice Chair, 505-397-8823, kathy.duhigg@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Stuart Ingle (R), Ranking Member, 505-986-4702, stuart.ingle@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Gregory A. Baca (R), 505-986-4877, greg.baca@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Linda M. Lopez (D), 505-397-8833, linda.lopez@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Mark Moores (R), 505-986-4856, mark.moores@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Bill B. O'Neill (D), 505-397-8838, oneillsd13@billoneillform.com
- ✓ Jerry Ortiz Y Pino (D), 505-397-8839, jortizyp@msn.com

- ✓ Cliff R. Pirtle (R), 505-986-4369, cliff.pirtle@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Mimi Stewart (D), 505-397-8853, mimi.stewart@nmlegis.gov
- ✓ Peter Wirth (D), 505-397-8855, peter.wirth@nmlegis.gov

Phone and Email talking points/ideas:

If phoning, leave a message like:

“I’m calling to ask my Senator to vote yes on SJR 3, the proposed constitutional environmental rights amendment that Senators Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Bill Soules and Harold Pope are advancing. Passing this amendment will strengthen protection of our environment, people and environmental justice. Please be a champion for the right of the people to vote for constitutional protection of our rights to pure water, clean air, a stable climate and healthy environments, including the rights of both present and future generations.”

If Emailing:

Email your Senator with your personal message urging support.

Consider using these points along with your own:

Email Subject line: Vote Yes on SJR 3, the NM Green Amendment to Protect My Rights to Healthy Water, Air & Environment.

Dear Senator,

I am asking you, as a member of the Senate Rules Committee, to please vote “yes” to SJR 3, the proposed New Mexico Environmental Rights Constitutional Amendment.

I love New Mexico’s beautiful landscapes, its precious waters, awesome mountain ranges, distinctive ecosystems and wildlife, and the beautiful and inspiring indigenous cultures that are so special to our state.

But our environments and people are facing serious challenges from pollution, degradation and environmental abuses. In 1971 our state added Article XX Section 21 to our state constitution intending to raise the bar for environmental protection—but we got the language wrong and nothing changed.

Today we have a chance to get it right. Senators Sedillo Lopez, Senator Soules and Senator Pope are proposing to give the people of New Mexico the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment that will give highest recognition and protection to our environmental rights, ensuring our inalienable rights to pure water, clean air, and healthy environments.

This is not a new idea, Pennsylvania and Montana have amendments of this kind, it’s time for New Mexico to secure one too.

I am urging you to please schedule a Rules Committee hearing and to vote “yes” to SJR 3 that would give our people the opportunity to vote to amend Article 2 of the New Mexico constitution in order to recognize and protect the environmental rights of all of our people.