

Mexico's communities. I hope the Senate will give this legislation its every consideration. I thank Senator BINGAMAN, Chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for cosponsoring this important legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 255

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "New Mexico Water Planning Assistance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey.

(2) STATE.—The term "State" means the State of New Mexico.

SEC. 3. COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of the Governor of the State and subject to subsections (b) through (f), the Secretary shall—

(1) provide to the State technical assistance and grants for the development of comprehensive State water plans;

(2) conduct water resources mapping in the State; and

(3) conduct a comprehensive study of groundwater resources (including potable, brackish, and saline water resources) in the State to assess the quantity, quality, and interaction of groundwater and surface water resources.

(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Technical assistance provided under subsection (a) may include—

(1) acquisition of hydrologic data, groundwater characterization, database development, and data distribution;

(2) expansion of climate, surface water, and groundwater monitoring networks;

(3) assessment of existing water resources, surface water storage, and groundwater storage potential;

(4) numerical analysis and modeling necessary to provide an integrated understanding of water resources and water management options;

(5) participation in State planning forums and planning groups;

(6) coordination of Federal water management planning efforts;

(7) technical review of data, models, planning scenarios, and water plans developed by the State; and

(8) provision of scientific and technical specialists to support State and local activities.

(c) ALLOCATION.—In providing grants under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, allocate—

(1) \$5,000,000 to develop hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for the New Mexico Rio Grande main stem sections and Rios Pueblo de Taos and Hondo, Rios Nambé, Pojoaque and Tesesque, Rio Chama, and Lower Rio Grande tributaries;

(2) \$1,500,000 to complete the hydrographic survey development of hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for the San Juan River and tributaries;

(3) \$1,000,000 to complete the hydrographic survey development of hydrologic models and acquire associated equipment for South-

west New Mexico, including the Animas Basin, the Gila River, and tributaries;

(4) \$4,500,000 for statewide digital orthophotography mapping; and

(5) such sums as are necessary to carry out additional projects consistent with subsection (b).

(d) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the total cost of any activity carried out using a grant provided under subsection (a) shall be 50 percent.

(2) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share under paragraph (1) may be in the form of any in-kind services that the Secretary determines would contribute substantially toward the conduct and completion of the activity assisted.

(e) NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS.—Any assistance or grants provided to the State under this Act shall be made on a non-reimbursable basis.

(f) AUTHORIZED TRANSFERS.—On request of the State, the Secretary shall directly transfer to 1 or more Federal agencies any amounts made available to the State to carry out this Act.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 5. SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.

The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provisions of this Act shall terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 22—RE-AFFIRMING THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROTECTIONS ACCORDED SEALED DOMESTIC MAIL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 22

Whereas all Americans depend on the United States Postal Service to transact business and communicate with friends and family;

Whereas postal customers have a constitutional right to expect that their sealed domestic mail will be protected against unreasonable searches;

Whereas the circumstances and procedures under which the Government may search sealed mail are well defined, including provisions under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), and generally require prior judicial approval;

Whereas the United States Postal Inspection Service has the authority to open and search a sealed envelope or package when there is immediate threat to life or limb or an immediate and substantial danger to property;

Whereas the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435) expressly reaffirmed the right of postal customers to have access to a class of mail sealed against inspection;

Whereas the United States Postal Service affirmed January 4, 2007, that the enactment of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435) does not grant Federal law enforcement officials any new authority to open domestic mail;

Whereas the signing statement on the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435) issued by President Bush on December 20, 2006, raises questions about the President's commitment to abide by these basic privacy protections; and

Whereas the Senate rejects any interpretation of the President's signing statement on the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435) that in any way diminishes the privacy protections accorded sealed domestic mail under the Constitution and Federal laws and regulations:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms the constitutional and statutory protections accorded sealed domestic mail.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a Senate resolution that will reaffirm the fundamental constitutional and statutory protections accorded sealed domestic mail. I am very pleased to have the distinguished chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs and Homeland Security Committee, Senator LIEBERMAN, as a cosponsor, Senator CARPER, who was the author of the postal reform bill with me in the last Congress, Senator COLEMAN, and Senator AKAKA, all of whom have been very active on postal issues.

On December 20, President Bush signed into law the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act that Senator CARPER and I originally introduced in 2004. This new law represents the most sweeping reforms to the U.S. Postal Service in more than 30 years.

The Presiding Officer and new chairman of the committee knows well that of all the legislation our committee produced last year, in many ways this was the most difficult to bring to completion.

The act, which will help the 225-year-old Postal Service, meets the challenges of the 21st century, establishes a new rate-setting system, helps ensure a stronger financial future for the Postal Service, provides more stability and predictability in rates, and protects the basic feature of universal service. One of the act's many provisions provides continued authority for the Postal Service to establish a class of mail sealed against inspection.

The day President Bush signed the Postal Reform Act into law, he also issued a signing statement construing that particular provision to permit "searches in exigent circumstances, such as to protect human life and safety." While I understand that the President's spokesman has explained that the signing statement did not intend to change the scope of this new law, it has resulted in considerable confusion and widespread concern about the President's commitment to abide by the basic privacy protections afforded sealed domestic mail. For some, it raised the specter of the Government unlawfully monitoring our mail in the name of national security.

Given this unfortunate perception, I wish to be very clear as the author of this legislation. Nothing in the Postal Reform Act, nor in the President's signing statement, alters in any way