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HOUSE MEMORIAL 35

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

Tanya Mirabal Moya and Brian G. Baca and Gail Armstrong and
Gregory A. Baca and Joshua A. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 30, 2024 AS "VALENCIA COUNTY DAY" IN THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, Valencia county is part of the Rio Abajo; and
WHEREAS, Valencia county is the home of the largest
matanza in the world, and the matanza is a symbol of the rich
Spanish heritage of the Rio Grande valley; and

WHEREAS, the matanza is a family fun event hosted by the
Hispano chamber of Valencia county to raise funds to provide
scholarships to students while preserving Valencia county
traditions by promoting and enhancing local business
development through civic, social, cultural and employment
training programs; and

WHEREAS, Valencia county is the home of the famous Tome
land grant, which the king of Spain granted to thirty families

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1 in 1739; and

2 WHEREAS, the village of Los Lunas was founded by Spaniards
3 in the seventeenth century; and

4 WHEREAS, the village of Los Lunas has been identified as
5 New Mexico's second-fastest growing community, with expansive
6 population growth; and

7 WHEREAS, the population growth of the village of Los Lunas
8 holds a significant role in New Mexico's expanding and
9 competitive economic landscape and is a catalyst for major
10 industrial manufacturing, technological and economic
11 development in Valencia county; and

12 WHEREAS, Belen is officially known as "Nuestra Señora de
13 Belen", or "Our Lady of Belen"; and

14 WHEREAS, Belen means "Bethlehem" in Spanish; and

15 WHEREAS, Belen was a strategic point along the Camino
16 Real, also known as the "Royal Road", which carved a trade
17 route south into Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, Belen has gained the nickname "hub city" because
19 of the Belen cutoff of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe
20 railway, now known as the BNSF railway company; and

21 WHEREAS, the original pre-1937 United States route 66 runs
22 through the heart of Valencia county; and

23 WHEREAS, Bosque Farms was a destination for relocated dust
24 bowl refugees; and

25 WHEREAS, Bosque Farms strives to be a sparsely populated,

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1 agricultural community; and

2 WHEREAS, Peralta was the site of a minor engagement during
3 the American civil war; and

4 WHEREAS, Rio Communities is home to Valencia county's only
5 golf course, Tierra del Sol; and

6 WHEREAS, Valencia county is home to the decalogue stone,
7 which contains an inscription that is interpreted to be an
8 abridged version of the ten commandments in a form of the
9 Paleo-Hebrew alphabet; and

10 WHEREAS, Valencia county houses two museums, the Belen
11 Harvey house museum and the Los Lunas museum of heritage and
12 arts; and

13 WHEREAS, Valencia county is home to parts of the Cibola
14 national forest and the Manzano wilderness; and

15 WHEREAS, Valencia county is renowned for its agriculture;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 30,
18 2024 be declared "Valencia County Day" in the house of
19 representatives; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the mayors of Belen, Los Lunas, Bosque Farms,
22 Peralta and Rio Communities and the chair of the board of
23 county commissioners of Valencia county.

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