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HOUSE MEMORIAL 4

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Cathrynn N. Brown

A MEMORIAL

CELEBRATING THE ENDURING GREATNESS OF THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTION; REQUESTING THAT ALL PEOPLE OF NEW MEXICO REGARD
AND TREAT THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WITH THE RESPECT IT IS
DUE.

WHEREAS, the United States constitution is one of the
greatest documents ever written; and

WHEREAS, the United States constitution is the supreme law
of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the United States constitution established three
branches of government — a legislature, the bicameral
congress; an executive branch led by the president; and a
judicial branch headed by the supreme court — and specified
the powers and duties of each branch; and

WHEREAS, the United States constitution reserved all non-

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1 enumerated powers to the states and the people, and thereby
2 established the federal system of government; and

3 WHEREAS, the United States constitution was written in
4 1787 and is a marvel of brevity and of clarity; and

5 WHEREAS, the United States constitution is the second
6 oldest written constitution still in use by any nation in the
7 world; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States constitution has withstood the
9 test of time, and two hundred twenty-four years later, the
10 United States constitution has only been amended twenty-seven
11 times; and

12 WHEREAS, the bill of rights is the collective name for the
13 first ten amendments to the United States constitution, which
14 amendments limit the power of the United States federal
15 government; and

16 WHEREAS, the bill of rights confers the natural rights of
17 liberty and property, which rights are considered to be self-
18 evident and universal; and

19 WHEREAS, constitution day commemorates the signing of the
20 United States constitution on September 17, 1787, and was
21 celebrated in fifth grade classrooms statewide during the week
22 of September 12 through 16, 2011; and

23 WHEREAS, it is critical that during the constitution day
24 commemorations, schools and the state bar of New Mexico make
25 abundantly clear to students across the state that their

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1 constitutional rights are inalienable and are never to be
2 surrendered;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all
5 commemorations of constitution day that take place in New
6 Mexico schools inform students that their constitutional rights
7 are protected and are non-negotiable; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the governor, the New Mexico supreme court, the
10 secretary of public education, the state bar of New Mexico and
11 all county bar associations in New Mexico.