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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 17, 2017 "NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has been an important educational, cultural, social and economic asset in New Mexico and particularly northern New Mexico since 1893; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university serves nearly four thousand students and has nearly five hundred fifty employees at the school's main campus and centers; and

WHEREAS, the vision of New Mexico highlands university is to be a premier university, transforming lives and communities now and for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the core values of New Mexico highlands university are excellence, diversity, accessibility and responsiveness; and

WHEREAS, the priorities of New Mexico highlands university are: academic excellence, academic integration and student success; strategic enrollment management; vibrant campus and university life; community partnerships; technological advancement and innovation; and enhanced communication and efficiency across the university; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university effectively serves students across the state, online and on its campuses

1 and centers in Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Farmington, Rio Rancho,
2 Albuquerque and Roswell; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university educates many
4 first-generation students, transforming their lives and the
5 lives of their families and future generations; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has many active
7 alumni, representing every state and many countries, and
8 seeks to effectively reach out to all alumni through the
9 establishment of a vibrant alumni association board of
10 directors; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university is home to the
12 vatos rugby team, a club sport team that won back-to-back
13 national championship titles in 2015 and 2016 at the national
14 small college rugby organization's seven-on-seven
15 tournaments; and

16 WHEREAS, the vatos rugby team has won eighty percent of
17 its matches in the team's twenty-five-year history, and
18 graduated eighty percent of its players from New Mexico
19 highlands university; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Dick Greene of New Mexico highlands
21 university has been selected from among the best scientists
22 in the nation as a Jefferson science fellow by the national
23 academies of science, engineering and medicine, and will work
24 with the United States agency for international development;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university awarded over
2 five million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$5,700,000) in
3 scholarships and grants to students during the 2015-2016
4 academic cycle; and

5 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university is a Hispanic-
6 serving institution, with more than fifty percent enrolled
7 Hispanic students, and strives to be a Native American-
8 serving institution, with nearly eight percent enrolled
9 Native American students; and

10 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has been
11 awarded about fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) in grants
12 since 2015; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university welcomes
14 students from northern New Mexico, all of New Mexico, the
15 United States and the world;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 17,
18 2017 be declared "New Mexico Highlands University Day" in the
19 house of representatives; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico highlands
21 university be commended for its service and dedication to the
22 residents of New Mexico; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the president of New Mexico highlands
25 university.