

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
3 RESTORATION OF ITS SACRED BLUE LAKE AND SURROUNDING LANDS TO  
4 THE PUEBLO OF TAOS.

5  
6 WHEREAS, in 1970, at the request of President  
7 Richard Nixon, the congress of the United States restored the  
8 sacred Blue lake and its surrounding lands to the Pueblo of  
9 Taos; and

10 WHEREAS, this restoration was the culmination of a  
11 sixty-four-year struggle by the Pueblo of Taos to regain the  
12 sacred Blue lake and surrounding areas that had been  
13 wrongfully taken from the Pueblo of Taos in 1906; and

14 WHEREAS, this restoration was the first time that a  
15 large acreage of wrongfully taken land was restored to an  
16 American Indian tribe; and

17 WHEREAS, this restoration was a symbolic act that  
18 transformed federal Indian policy to give new respect to the  
19 practice of Native American religion by American Indian  
20 tribes and led to the enactment of federal legislation to  
21 protect the exercise of religious freedom by those tribes;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, passage of Public Law 91-550 provided a  
24 precedent for the restoration of land to other Indian tribes;  
25 and

1           WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Taos will commemorate the  
2 fiftieth anniversary of the passage of Public Law 91-550  
3 in a national gathering at the Pueblo of Taos on  
4 September 19, 2020;

5           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the fiftieth anniversary of the  
7 restoration of Blue lake to the Pueblo of Taos be recognized  
8 and celebrated; and

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
10 transmitted to the governor of the Pueblo of Taos. \_\_\_\_\_

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