

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING MARCH 5, 2007 TO BE "COLONIAS DAY" AND REQUESTING  
3 THE GOVERNOR AND HIS CABINET TO ASSIST LOCAL EFFORTS TO  
4 IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NEW MEXICO BY ADDING RURAL  
5 COMMUNITIES AND COLONIAS TO THE STATE'S PRIORITY ACTION LIST  
6 OF PROGRAMS AND WATER PROJECTS FOR LEGISLATIVE FUNDING.  
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8 WHEREAS, the board of directors of the New Mexico  
9 association of counties comprises the elected officials who  
10 are responsible for the health, welfare and safety of the  
11 residents of New Mexico's thirty-three counties, and these  
12 board members are asked to represent and address the needs of  
13 these residents; and

14 WHEREAS, the administration of Governor Richardson is to  
15 be commended for targeting statewide improvements in  
16 education, water issues, infrastructure and economic  
17 development, and a natural extension of those initiatives  
18 would be the addition of infrastructure improvements for  
19 rural and colonias communities to the statewide priority  
20 action list; and

21 WHEREAS, rural and colonias communities are sorely  
22 lacking in infrastructure, accessibility, opportunities and  
23 sanitation services, and by working together, the state and  
24 individual counties could lift these communities up and  
25 provide better futures for the children in the communities

1 who will in turn raise their own families on family  
2 properties, thereby making meaningful progress toward  
3 enhancing the most basic of human needs in these challenged  
4 communities; and

5 WHEREAS, residents of rural and colonias communities  
6 statewide face harsh challenges on a daily basis, but they  
7 are proud people who are reluctant to ask for help; and

8 WHEREAS, individual counties continue to undertake  
9 independent and ambitious infrastructure improvement plans  
10 designed to enhance social and economic development  
11 opportunities for all residents of New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, by initiating a statewide improvement program  
13 for rural and colonias communities, the state could partner  
14 with the thirty-three counties to empower these small  
15 communities and dramatically improve the quality of life in  
16 them, while simultaneously creating new entrepreneurial zones  
17 that will complement existing projects in incorporated  
18 municipalities;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 5, 2007 be recognized as  
21 "Colonias Day" in the legislature; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Richardson and his  
23 cabinet be requested to work with the board of directors of  
24 the New Mexico association of counties to assist local  
25 efforts to improve the quality of life in the state and to

1 add improvements for rural communities and colonias to the  
2 state's priority action list of programs for legislative  
3 funding; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
5 transmitted to the governor and to the board of directors of  
6 the New Mexico association of counties. \_\_\_\_\_

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