

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007, AS "4-H AND FUTURE
3 FARMERS OF AMERICA DAY" AT THE LEGISLATURE.

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5 WHEREAS, 4-H youth development and future farmers of
6 America programs have been the premier youth leadership
7 programs in New Mexico for more than eighty years; and

8 WHEREAS, the 4-H youth development and future farmers of
9 America programs sponsor chapters and clubs in rural and
10 urban areas throughout the state; and

11 WHEREAS, over ninety thousand youths between the ages of
12 five and twenty-one participate in the 4-H youth development
13 and future farmers of America programs statewide; and

14 WHEREAS, 4-H youth development and future farmers of
15 America programs are diverse, emphasizing thirty-five life
16 skills, including leadership, responsible citizenship,
17 critical thinking, problem solving, decision-making, conflict
18 resolution, respecting others and effective communication,
19 which directly contribute to the successful transition of
20 young people into productive adults; and

21 WHEREAS, 4-H youth development and future farmers of
22 America programs are involved in partnerships throughout New
23 Mexico with volunteer efforts involving almost six thousand
24 adult volunteers contributing over two hundred sixty-eight
25 thousand hours of volunteer service to the youth of the

1 state, which service, if it were provided by paid staff,
2 would have cost almost five million dollars (\$5,000,000); and

3 WHEREAS, 4-H youth and future farmers of America
4 participants reported that being a part of those
5 organizations gave them greater confidence and positive
6 self-identity; gave them greater control over events in their
7 lives by enabling them to make decisions on their own, set
8 goals and take responsibility for their actions; and gave
9 them pride and a sense of purpose and meaning in life;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Thursday, February 15, 2007, be
12 declared "4-H and Future Farmers of America Day" at the
13 legislature; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to New Mexico's 4-H youth development and future
16 farmers of America organizations.

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