

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 28

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 James Roger Madalena

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DESIGNATE THE TWENTY-SIX-AND-FIFTY-
12 SEVEN-HUNDREDTHS-ACRE PORTION OF THE "RANCHITO GRANT" AND THE
13 EXISTING NINETY-SEVEN-AND-EIGHT-TENTHS-ACRE PARCEL AS THE
14 CORONADO STATE MONUMENT AND TO GRANT TO THE MUSEUM OF NEW
15 MEXICO FULL AND UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE PROPERTIES.

16
17 WHEREAS, on March 7, 1935, the commissioner of public
18 lands designated by proclamation the Coronado state monument in
19 Sandoval county; and

20 WHEREAS, on October 18, 1935, President Franklin D.
21 Roosevelt granted to the board of regents of the university of
22 New Mexico, in accordance with the provisions of the act of
23 congress of August 19, 1935 (Public Law No. 35-284), a patent
24 issue for use for archaeological purposes of the land on which
25 Coronado state monument was located: lots seven, eight and
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1 nine and the northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 13
2 north, Range 4 east of the New Mexico principal meridian
3 containing two hundred eighteen and thirteen one-hundredths of
4 an acre; and

5 WHEREAS, the patent was issued upon the express condition
6 that if the university of New Mexico failed to use those lands
7 for the purposes provided or attempted to alienate such lands,
8 title to those lands shall revert to the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, in the mid-1930s, Dr. Edgar Lee Hewett began an
10 extensive investigation and excavation of the Kuaua Pueblo
11 ruins located on the site; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1938 the Pueblo of Santa Ana informed the
13 state that the ongoing archaeological excavations were
14 extending onto a portion of its lands located on the eastern
15 side of the Coronado state monument and adjacent to the Rio
16 Grande, an area known as El Ranchito grant; and

17 WHEREAS, negotiations ensued between the university of New
18 Mexico and the Pueblo of Santa Ana to exchange lands and permit
19 the excavations to continue, and those negotiations received
20 the necessary congressional approvals; and

21 WHEREAS, the exchange proposal was eventually dropped for
22 unknown reasons; and

23 WHEREAS, on May 19, 1940, the Coronado state monument was
24 officially dedicated as part of the statewide celebration of
25 the Coronado cuarto centenario, the four-hundredth anniversary

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1 of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado's expedition into the
2 southwest; and

3 WHEREAS, on October 1, 1943, the university of New Mexico
4 granted an undivided half-interest of the two hundred eighteen
5 and thirteen-hundredths acres through a ninety-nine-year lease
6 to the museum of New Mexico that administered the Coronado
7 state monument; and

8 WHEREAS, on February 24, 1971, the museum of New Mexico,
9 the university of New Mexico and the state parks commission
10 entered into an agreement to permit the establishment of a
11 state park on the southeastern part of the Coronado state
12 monument property adjacent to the Rio Grande; and

13 WHEREAS, on April 8, 1982, the Pueblo of Santa Ana sued
14 the university of New Mexico over the state park development,
15 which had extended onto a portion of its El Ranchito grant
16 property; and

17 WHEREAS, on November 12, 1985, the university of New
18 Mexico and the Pueblo of Santa Ana settled the trespass dispute
19 by agreeing to an exchange of lands in which the pueblo
20 exchanged a twenty-six-and-fifty-seven-hundredths-acre portion
21 of its El Ranchito grant for one hundred nineteen and eighty-
22 six hundredths acres of land belonging to the university of New
23 Mexico and the Coronado state monument on the western edge of
24 the Coronado state monument; and

25 WHEREAS, the twenty-six and fifty-seven hundredths acres
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1 received in the exchange were not added to the boundary of the
2 Coronado state monument, and the university of New Mexico did
3 not grant to the museum of New Mexico an undivided
4 half-interest on the twenty-six and fifty-seven hundredths
5 acres despite the museum's collaboration in giving up its
6 undivided half-interest in the one hundred nineteen and eighty-
7 six hundredths acres exchanged with the Pueblo of Santa Ana;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico has expressed
10 interest in divesting itself of this twenty-six-and-fifty-
11 seven-hundredths-acre parcel of land through a sale; and

12 WHEREAS, Coronado state monument and its principal
13 archaeological resource, the Kuaua Pueblo, should be declared a
14 state monument in its own right and not continue to exist as a
15 state monument under the existing lease agreement with the
16 university of New Mexico;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
18 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico be
19 requested to refrain from divesting itself of the twenty-six-
20 and-fifty-seven-hundredths-acre portion of El Ranchito grant
21 property for any commercial uses and that the governor, through
22 the authority vested in him, be requested to designate the
23 twenty-six-and-fifty-seven-hundredths-acre portion of El
24 Ranchito grant property and the existing parcel of ninety-seven
25 and eight-tenths acres as the Coronado state monument and

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1 further, that the university of New Mexico be requested to
2 grant to the museum of New Mexico its undivided half-interest
3 in the ninety-seven and eight-tenths acres in order to protect
4 and preserve its archaeological resources; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the governor, the board of regents of the
7 university of New Mexico, the members of the New Mexico
8 congressional delegation, the secretary of the interior, the
9 director of the federal bureau of land management and the
10 secretary of cultural affairs.

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