A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 27, 2010 "FARM AND RANCH WORKERS AND
FAMILIES DAY" AT THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, agriculture's contribution to New Mexico's
heritage and economic health is well-known; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked sixth in the nation in the
exportation of dairy products, the state's number one
agricultural commodity; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked thirteenth in the nation
in cattle production, our number two commodity; and

WHEREAS, according to United States department of
agriculture rankings, only California had greater chile
production than New Mexico, and New Mexicans know that no
place grows better chile than New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the New Mexico farm and ranch
community paid an estimated one hundred forty-nine million
three hundred seventy thousand three hundred dollars
($149,370,300) in taxes; and

WHEREAS, major farm and ranch production in New Mexico
includes cattle, sheep and wool, dairy products, alfalfa and
other hays, wheat, sorghum, cotton, chile, pecans, lettuce,
corn and onions; and

WHEREAS, the production of many of these commodities
would not be possible without the approximately twelve

thousand farm and ranch workers in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers in New Mexico have been tending crops and livestock since the 1600s; and

WHEREAS, for all of this time, farm and ranch workers have been the backbone of much of the farming and ranching industry; and

WHEREAS, many farm and ranch workers receive little recognition for their work; and

WHEREAS, all New Mexicans benefit from the labor of farm and ranch workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 27, 2010 be declared "Farm and Ranch Workers and Families Day" at the senate to honor the hardworking people whose role in New Mexico's economy is of great importance to all residents of the state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor and the lieutenant governor.