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SENATE MEMORIAL 1

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Timothy M. Keller

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE FAIR COMMISSION AND EXPO NEW MEXICO TO FACILITATE DIALOGUE BETWEEN ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND ASSESS ISSUES SURROUNDING ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING AN ASIAN AMERICAN CENTER FOR CULTURAL AND MULTIPLE PURPOSES AT EXPO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Asian Americans in New Mexico comprise thirty thousand residents and contribute greatly to the cultural, economic and intellectual achievements of New Mexico's society; and

WHEREAS, the largest projected population growth by percentage is expected for Asian residents, estimated to increase by nearly four percent per year for the next several years; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans live and work throughout New

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1 Mexico and are an integral part of New Mexico's cultural mix;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Asian Americans have established strong  
4 communities in New Mexico with rich and varied traditions,  
5 particularly in Albuquerque near Expo New Mexico, where a  
6 concentration of Asian restaurants and shops exists; and

7 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico boasts three ethnic complexes,  
8 villa Hispana, Indian village and the Alicia K. Hoppes African  
9 American pavilion; and

10 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico provides approximately fifty-five  
11 thousand square feet to five art galleries, individually  
12 featuring the creative arts, Hispanic arts, fine arts, school  
13 arts and Indian arts; and

14 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico also hosts the Sheryl Williams  
15 Stapleton African American performing arts center and exhibit  
16 hall; and

17 WHEREAS, Expo New Mexico has a total of approximately  
18 sixty-eight thousand square feet of exhibition space, excluding  
19 the art galleries; and

20 WHEREAS, an Asian American center would honor, celebrate  
21 and provide education on the significant achievements,  
22 sacrifices and contributions of Asian Americans in New Mexico  
23 and the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, an Asian American center will contribute to the  
25 acclaim of Expo New Mexico for its art galleries and ethnic

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1 complexes; and

2 WHEREAS, an Asian American center will generate additional  
3 interest and bring visitors to Expo New Mexico;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
5 OF NEW MEXICO that the state fair commission and Expo New  
6 Mexico be requested to facilitate dialogue between all  
7 interested parties; assess issues surrounding establishing,  
8 siting, locating and maintaining an Asian American center that  
9 can be used year-round for multiple purposes at Expo New  
10 Mexico; and submit reports summarizing the progress of the  
11 discussions to the community and the appropriate legislative  
12 committee in October 2011 and October 2012; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
14 transmitted to the state fair commission and the general  
15 manager of Expo New Mexico.