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HOUSE MEMORIAL 77

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Kelly K. Fajardo

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE NEW MEXICO DAHL HAIR SHEEP'S INTEGRAL ROLE IN
THE TRADITION AND HERITAGE OF NEW MEXICO COMMUNITIES AND
REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY WAYS TO
PROTECT AND PRESERVE ALL NEW MEXICO HERITAGE BREEDS OF
LIVESTOCK.

WHEREAS, the first domesticated livestock were introduced
into what is now the United States of America through the
kingdom of Nuevo Mexico between the years 1540 and 1598,
respectively, by Francisco Vásquez de Coronado and Don Juan de
Oñate and company; and

WHEREAS, Coronado and Oñate contributed to the deeply
important Spanish tradition of ranching; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico dahl hair sheep continue to play an
integral role in the tradition and heritage of New Mexico

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1 communities; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico dahl hair sheep have precipitously
3 declined in number and are perilously close to extinction; and

4 WHEREAS, it is of critical importance to restore the
5 numbers of New Mexico dahl hair sheep and bring their
6 population to levels that ensure the future survival of this
7 heritage breed;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the house of
10 representatives ask that the New Mexico dahl hair sheep be
11 recognized as a New Mexico heritage breed; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a task force be created to
13 study New Mexico's ranching heritage and make recommendations
14 on prudent measures to protect and preserve all New Mexico
15 heritage breeds of livestock for future generations of New
16 Mexicans and that the task force present its findings to the
17 appropriate legislative interim committee; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the governor, the director of the New Mexico
20 department of agriculture, New Mexico wool growers,
21 incorporated, the New Mexico cattle growers' association and
22 the New Mexico dahl sheep foundation.