

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE THE FOURTH SATURDAY IN JULY AS "NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY" IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, pioneering men and women known as cowboys helped establish America's frontiers; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy archetype transcends gender, generations, ethnicity, geographic boundaries and political affiliations; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy embodies honesty, integrity, courage, compassion and determination; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy-vaquero spirit exemplifies patriotism and strength of character; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy is an excellent steward of the land and its creatures; and

WHEREAS, the core values expressed within the cowboy code of conduct continue to inspire the pursuit of the highest caliber of personal integrity; and

WHEREAS, cowboy and ranching traditions have been part of the American landscape and culture since 1523, and today's cowboys and cowgirls continue to strive to preserve and perpetuate this unique element of America's heritage; and

WHEREAS, annual attendance at rodeos exceeds thirty million fans worldwide; and

WHEREAS, membership and participation in the national

day of the cowboy organization, single action shooting society, working ranch cowboys association, cowboy mounted shooting association, American quarter horse association, professional rodeo cowboys association, championship bull riding, working ranch rodeo, women's professional rodeo association, U.S. team roping, the western music association and other organizations that encompass the livelihood of the cowboy continue to expand both nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy and the cowboy's horse are central figures in literature, art, film, poetry, photography and music; and

WHEREAS, the cowboy is a true American icon, occupying a central place in the public's imagination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to designate the fourth Saturday in July as "National Day of the Cowboy" in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the governor.