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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 18
51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014
INTRODUCED BY
Stephanie Garcia Richard

A JOINT MEMORIAL
URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION FOR THE
MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

WHEREAS, the Manhattan project was one the most
historically significant events of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the Manhattan project,
including the scientific and engineering developments and the
test of the world's first atomic bomb, took place in New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, federal Public Law 108-340, the
Manhattan Project National Historic Park Study Act, directed
the United States secretary of the interior, in consultation
with the United States department of energy and the public, to
conduct a special resource study; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the United States department of energy
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1 published the special resource study on the preservation and
2 interpretation of historic sites of the Manhattan project for
3 potential inclusion in the national park service, including
4 sites in New Mexico; and

5 WHEREAS, the council of the incorporated county of Los
6 Alamos adopted Resolution number 10-06 in February 2010 in
7 support of the Manhattan project national historic park to
8 include a Los Alamos county unit for which the department of
9 energy would provide maintenance, safety and security of
10 department of energy facilities and the national park service
11 superintendent and personnel would provide educational
12 materials and overall interpretation, in collaboration with
13 local communities and the department of energy; and

14 WHEREAS, the national park service released the final
15 special resource study report in 2011 recommending that the
16 United States congress establish a national historical park at
17 the three non-contiguous sites where a majority of the key
18 scientific activities associated with the project occurred and
19 where significant department of energy investment in
20 preservation of assets has occurred: Los Alamos, New Mexico;
21 Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Hanford, Washington; and

22 WHEREAS, to protect these historic assets, the energy
23 communities alliance, the national trust for historic
24 preservation, the atomic heritage foundation, the national
25 parks conservation association, the Los Alamos historical

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1 society and numerous other local and national partners
2 recommend that the park be established as soon as possible to:

- 3 A. honor Manhattan project veterans;
4 B. protect ongoing missions of the department of
5 energy;
6 C. authorize user or entrance fees to assist in
7 long-term sustainability;
8 D. make donations;
9 E. grant broad authority to allow the park units to
10 accept both personal property and financial donations to
11 support the park and provide tours of the sites; and
12 F. allow the national park service to work with
13 communities to add nationally significant sites to the park in
14 the future; and

15 WHEREAS, United States Senate Bill 507 and United States
16 House of Representatives Bill 1208 were introduced in January
17 2013 to their respective subcommittees on national parks and
18 energy and natural resources, including bipartisan support for
19 both bills from senators and members of the congress from the
20 three states designated for park locations, including Senator
21 Tom Udall and Senator Martin Heinrich of New Mexico; Senator
22 Lamar Alexander of Tennessee; Senator Maria Cantwell and
23 Senator Patty Murray of Washington state; Representative
24 Michelle Lujan Grisham, Representative Ben Ray Lujan and
25 Representative Steve Pearce of New Mexico; Representative Chuck

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1 Fleischmann of Tennessee; and Representative Doc Hastings of
2 Washington state;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States congress be urged to
5 pass legislation creating the Manhattan project national
6 historical park; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to members of the New Mexico congressional
9 delegation.

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