

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 25

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014**

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2014, AS "NEW MEXICO FOOD AND FARMS DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a vibrant food and farming culture that is significant to rural economy and provides employment opportunities on farms; in direct wholesale and retail opportunities; and in food processing, distribution and value-added businesses; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that for every one dollar (\$1.00) that goes to local agricultural producers, one dollar eighty cents (\$1.80) is circulated in the local economy; and

WHEREAS, if every New Mexican consumer purchased only fifteen percent of the consumer's food from the state's farmers and ranchers, it would increase annual farm income by three hundred ninety-two million dollars (\$392,000,000); and

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1           WHEREAS, seventy-two farmers markets are serving New  
2 Mexico produce to thirty-six thousand people per week in thirty  
3 counties by direct sales, electronic benefit transfer  
4 allotments, the women, infant and children program and senior  
5 farmers market nutrition programs; and

6           WHEREAS, in 2012, New Mexico farmers markets had annual  
7 gross sales of eight million four hundred seventy thousand  
8 dollars (\$8,470,000); and

9           WHEREAS, currently, more than twenty-five New Mexico  
10 farmers sell to over sixty school districts serving more than  
11 two hundred forty thousand schoolchildren New Mexico grown  
12 fruits and vegetables, enhancing the diets of schoolchildren,  
13 promoting healthier lifestyles and increasing academic  
14 achievement; and

15           WHEREAS, an investment in children's health will help stem  
16 the rise in childhood obesity in New Mexico, where thirty-two  
17 percent of children are overweight or obese; and

18           WHEREAS, a healthier population will help to save the  
19 state an additional three hundred twenty-four million dollars  
20 (\$324,000,000) in obesity-related health care expenses and an  
21 additional one billion two hundred million dollars  
22 (\$1,200,000,000) for diabetes treatment; and

23           WHEREAS, increased investment from the state legislature  
24 enables schools to feature New Mexico grown produce and meet  
25 federal nutrition requirements, serve more fresh fruits and

.195871.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 vegetables to New Mexico children and support economic  
2 development opportunities for local farmers, entrepreneurs and  
3 communities; and

4 WHEREAS, capital outlay projects and general  
5 appropriations are means by which to expand New Mexico produce  
6 markets; and

7 WHEREAS, creating community kitchens can accelerate the  
8 growth of rural food entrepreneurs, using a proven model of  
9 kitchen incubation as exemplified by the "Mixing Bowl" project,  
10 a federal food-and-drug-administration-certified commercial  
11 kitchen at Albuquerque's south valley economic development  
12 center; and

13 WHEREAS, the number of New Mexico's community and school  
14 gardens is growing and they provide an important way for  
15 children and families to engage in growing food and provide a  
16 way for children to learn about nutrition and life sciences;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, programs such as FoodCorps  
19 and AmeriCorps, whose volunteers devote a year of their lives  
20 to local communities, have built or expanded hundreds of garden  
21 projects, donated thousands of pounds of garden produce,  
22 engaged hundreds of community volunteers and reached students  
23 throughout New Mexico;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
25 OF NEW MEXICO that Wednesday, January 29, 2014, be declared

.195871.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 "New Mexico Food and Farms Day" in the senate as acknowledgment  
2 that the time has come to invest in New Mexico's children,  
3 economy and future by supporting farmers, farmers markets and  
4 food entrepreneurs and by encouraging public schools and others  
5 to continue and expand the purchase of New Mexico grown fruits  
6 and vegetables; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
8 transmitted to the New Mexico food and agriculture policy  
9 council, the New Mexico department of agriculture and the  
10 public education department.

11 - 4 -  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25