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SENATE MEMORIAL 74

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

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY
OF CREATING A HALL OF FAME FOR RANCHING, RODEO AND HORSE
RACING.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a rich history based on its
western heritage and western way of life; and

WHEREAS, ranching and cowboy traditions have been a part
of the American landscape and culture since New Mexico was
under Spanish rule, and today's ranchers, cowboys and cowgirls
continue to strive to preserve and perpetuate this unique
element of America's heritage; and

WHEREAS, the livestock and livestock product industry is
one of the largest in New Mexico, with the dairy industry
bringing in the most money annually, followed by the beef
industry; and

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1 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranchers are excellent stewards of the
2 land and its creatures; and

3 WHEREAS, the ranchers and cowboys who settled the llano
4 estacado and other ranching areas around the state deserve
5 recognition for their efforts; and

6 WHEREAS, rodeo has been an old western tradition for
7 centuries; and

8 WHEREAS, long before rodeo became a professional sport and
9 industry, rodeo derived from the basic practicalities of
10 everyday ranch chores; and

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

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico has a long history of supporting the
14 sport of rodeo and the athletes who compete in rodeos; and

15 WHEREAS, the sport of horse racing in the west is also a
16 logical outgrowth of ranching; and

17 WHEREAS, the pari-mutuel horse racing industry strives to
18 protect the interest of wagering patrons and New Mexico in a
19 manner that promotes a climate of economic prosperity for
20 horsemen, horse owners and racetrack management; and

21 WHEREAS, a hall of fame honoring the men and women who
22 exemplify the best in the areas of ranching, rodeo and horse
23 racing would recognize their contributions to the quality of
24 life in New Mexico; and

25 WHEREAS, New Mexico state university, located in Las

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1 Cruces, is the state's agricultural university, with its
2 constitutional focus on agriculture and its statutory
3 obligation to provide a thorough course of instruction in all
4 branches of learning bearing on agriculture;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
6 OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico state university be requested to
7 study the feasibility of creating a hall of fame to honor those
8 who exemplify the best in ranching, rodeo and horse racing
9 lifestyles; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
11 transmitted to the president of New Mexico state university.