

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 16

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 John Pinto

5
6
7
8
9
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE NAVAJO CODE TALKERS ASSOCIATION
12 AND REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE FUNDING
13 FOR A NAVAJO CODE TALKER MUSEUM AND VETERANS' CENTER.

14
15 WHEREAS, the Navajo code talkers association plans to
16 develop and construct a Navajo code talker museum and veterans'
17 center as a perpetual monument to the legacy of the Navajo code
18 talkers, one which will provide historical, cultural and
19 educational opportunities for many people; and

20 WHEREAS, the United States marine corps along with the
21 Navajo code talkers used the Navajo language to develop and
22 establish a unique code that was not broken by the enemies of
23 the United States, and these efforts in World War II were
24 significant, and without them, the United States might not have
25 been victorious; and

.203359.1

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

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

1 WHEREAS, the distinguished contribution of these aging
2 warriors is immeasurable, their bravery unquestionable and
3 their honored place in history rightly deserved; and

4 WHEREAS, the Navajo code talkers association veterans'
5 nonprofit organization is composed of Navajo veterans of World
6 War II who were the Navajo code talkers and their descendants;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the association intends to preserve and honor the
9 legacy of the Navajo code talkers and to provide much-needed
10 facilities and services to support and honor those veterans;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the association has a mission to plan and develop
13 a Navajo code talker museum and veterans' center in support of
14 the legacy of the Navajo code talkers and other veterans; and

15 WHEREAS, a Navajo code talker museum and veterans' center
16 will perpetuate the heroism of the Navajo code talkers and
17 instill the ideals of the Navajo code talkers in future
18 generations through educational and charitable activities; and

19 WHEREAS, a museum and veterans' center will provide a
20 venue in which people from across the United States and around
21 the world can learn more about these heroes; and

22 WHEREAS, a museum and veterans' center will provide
23 recognition and public gratitude for, and capture the histories
24 and stories of, Navajo code talkers and will offer practicable
25 services to veterans; and

.203359.1

1 WHEREAS, a Navajo code talker museum and veterans' center
2 will need technical assistance and major funding to construct a
3 museum, veterans' center, Navajo language institute, native
4 healing area and related amenities and infrastructure; and

5 WHEREAS, the Navajo code talkers intend to, and can,
6 develop and design the project to be economically feasible and
7 self-sustaining in the long term; and

8 WHEREAS, a Navajo code talker museum and veterans' center
9 will be a unique tourist destination that will enhance the
10 local community and economy by providing tourism-related jobs,
11 services and amenities to residents of the Navajo Nation,
12 McKinley county, northwest New Mexico and the state;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it express the appreciation to the
15 Navajo code talkers association for undertaking the initiative
16 to develop and construct a Navajo code talker museum and
17 veterans' center and that it respectfully request that the
18 United States congress provide funding to support the planning,
19 design and construction of the museum and veterans' center; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the president of the Navajo Nation, the speaker
22 of the Navajo Nation council, the New Mexico congressional
23 delegation, the Navajo code talkers association and the
24 governors of New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

25