

HOUSE MEMORIAL 112

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART; CELEBRATING THE MUSEUM'S SINGULAR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN NEW MEXICO; REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE NOVEMBER 25, 2017 "NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART CENTENNIAL DAY" TO COMMEMORATE THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART.

WHEREAS, in the early twentieth century, New Mexico museum of art founder Edgar Lee Hewett, patron Frank Springer and the state legislature had the foresight and vision to create a state-of-the-art museum dedicated to the visual arts in newly established New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the art gallery of the museum of New Mexico, now known as the New Mexico museum of art, was dedicated on November 25, 1917, and the construction of the museum

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1 illustrated a belief and understanding that the arts make a
2 significant contribution to civic life; and

3 WHEREAS, the New Mexico museum of art's ground-breaking
4 open-door policy created a supportive environment for artists
5 working in New Mexico, attracting artists to the state from
6 around the country, and helped to make Santa Fe and New Mexico
7 important cultural destinations; and

8 WHEREAS, the New Mexico museum of art provided a venue and
9 platform to expose the rich tradition of New Mexico arts and
10 culture to the world; and

11 WHEREAS, the New Mexico museum of art continues today to
12 attract both artists and visitors to New Mexico, contributing
13 to the national reputation of the state as a thriving arts
14 center and serving as a key component of New Mexico's vibrant
15 cultural economy and tourism industry; and

16 WHEREAS, no state is more culturally rich than New Mexico,
17 where the blending and cross-influence of Native American,
18 Hispanic and European-based cultures have created a unique
19 environment for art and artists, unlike anywhere else in the
20 world; and

21 WHEREAS, for nearly a century, the New Mexico museum of
22 art and its St. Francis auditorium have been a gathering place
23 for significant cultural, private and civic events, including
24 the New Mexico governor's awards for excellence in the arts;
25 and

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