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HOUSE MEMORIAL 11

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Christine Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER
2020 AS "LABOR HISTORY MONTH".

WHEREAS, New Mexico's culture is influenced by historical
labor movements that developed out of a need to protect the
collective needs of workers; and

WHEREAS, historical labor movements have been part of
important advances in gender and racial equality; and

WHEREAS, labor unions have been instrumental in improving
working conditions and pay as well as addressing social and
community needs, including access to healthy food, sanitation
and education; and

WHEREAS, organized labor in New Mexico grew in the 1880s
as railroad workers formed the knights of labor and teachers
formed the territorial education association, now known as the

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1 national education association of New Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico's workforce represents industry in the
3 public sector, transportation, utilities, construction,
4 information and manufacturing; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2017, eight and one-third percent of New
6 Mexico's population was represented by unions; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranked thirty-third among all states
8 for the share of the workforce represented by unions; and

9 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the significance of
10 the history of labor;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be
13 requested to designate the month of September 2020 as "Labor
14 History Month" in New Mexico; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the importance of
16 understanding the history of labor be recognized; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that school districts be encouraged
18 to commemorate the month with appropriate educational exercises
19 that make students aware of the role of the labor movement in
20 New Mexico and the United States; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
22 department consider the study of labor history, from the
23 Spanish colonial period to the present day, in educational
24 curriculum selection; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of public
2 education.

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