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HOUSE MEMORIAL 4

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Christine Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER
2023 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, according to the bureau of labor statistics of
6 the United States department of labor, in 2021, nine and
7 one-tenth percent of New Mexico's population was represented by
8 unions; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranked thirtieth among all states for
10 the share of the workforce represented by unions; and

11 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the significance of
12 the history of labor;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be
15 requested to designate the month of September 2023 as "Labor
16 History Month" in New Mexico; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the importance of
18 understanding the history of labor be recognized; and

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

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
24 department consider the study of labor history, from the
25 Spanish colonial period to the present day, in educational

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1 curriculum selection; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of public
4 education.

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