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HOUSE MEMORIAL 9

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

INTRODUCED BY

Luis M. Terrazas and Siah Correa Hemphill

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 1, 2023 THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL "GRANT COUNTY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, Grant county is known for its mining, ranching and art communities; blend of Hispanic, Native American and Anglo cultures; blue skies with three hundred sixty days of sunshine per year; vast mountain landscapes; and small-town atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is the gateway to the vast Gila wilderness; and

WHEREAS, Grant county's largest city and county seat, Silver City, is the only municipality in New Mexico still operating under the territorial charter issued by the legislative assembly of the territory of New Mexico in 1878; and

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WHEREAS, Grant county is the richest county for mining in New Mexico, producing numerous precious metals, including copper, an essential element of green energy and electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is home to western New Mexico university, established in 1893, the state's only liberal arts and sciences university as designated by the legislature; and

WHEREAS, the western New Mexico university museum has the world's foremost collection of ancient Mimbres pottery; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is known for its true west history that includes prehistoric Native Americans, Chiricahua Apache and wild west characters such as Billy the Kid, lawman Dan Tucker and madam Millie; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is where, in 1866, company B of the one-hundred-twenty-fifth United States colored infantry regiment, known as the buffalo soldiers, was established at Fort Bayard; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is honored as the home of many veterans, and Grant county shares New Mexico's heavy burden of the members of New Mexico's two-hundredth coast artillery regiment, many of whom were subjected to the Bataan death march, including the late Representative Tom Foy; and

WHEREAS, Grant county straddles the Continental Divide trail, a national scenic trail, at six thousand to seven thousand feet, providing cool summers, as well as uninterrupted .224285.1

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views of the Mexican border to the south; and

WHEREAS, Grant county hosts the annual tour of the Gila, New Mexico's premier cycling stage race, which attracts national and international teams and boosts awareness and use of the trail of the Mountain Spirits national scenic byway; and

WHEREAS, western New Mexico university's early childhood programs were designated as the New Mexico center for excellence for early childhood education during the 2022 legislative session; and

WHEREAS, Grant county has many well-known festivals, including the blues festival, clay festival, festival of the written word and Southwest print fiesta; and

WHEREAS, Grant county recognizes Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales of Grant county;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 1, 2023 be proclaimed the forty-seventh annual "Grant County Day" in the house of representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to members of the board of county commissioners of Grant county.

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