

1 HOUSE MEMORIAL 21

2 **56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Gail Armstrong and James G. Townsend and Cathrynn N. Brown and  
5 Alan T. Martinez and Candy Spence Ezzell  
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9  
10 A MEMORIAL

11 DECLARING FEBRUARY 3, 2023 "NEW MEXICO RURAL ELECTRIC  
12 COOPERATIVE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.  
13

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico's rural electric cooperatives provide  
15 electric power to eighty percent of New Mexico's land and  
16 twenty-two percent of New Mexicans, while more than forty-two  
17 million residents across the country are members of one  
18 thousand electric cooperatives in forty-seven states; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperative members and  
20 owners include seventeen of New Mexico's Indian nations, tribes  
21 and pueblos; and

22 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives employ  
23 more than nine hundred New Mexicans and provide more than  
24 sixty-five million dollars (\$65,000,000) in annual payroll,  
25 contributing greatly to the economy of this rural state; and

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1           WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
2 invested more than one billion three hundred thousand dollars  
3 (\$1,000,300,000) in infrastructure, which includes more than  
4 forty-six thousand miles of distribution lines serving an  
5 average of almost five customers per mile and encompassing more  
6 than eighty percent of the land mass of New Mexico; and

7           WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
8 provided more than fourteen million dollars (\$14,000,000) in  
9 higher education scholarships to more than eight thousand nine  
10 hundred New Mexico students over the past twenty years; and

11           WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
12 active, engaged leaders in their communities by providing  
13 educational scholarships and participating in the national  
14 government-in-action youth tour by sending New Mexico students  
15 to Washington, D.C. to observe government in action and learn  
16 about the importance of electric cooperatives; and

17           WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives, in  
18 partnership with their generation and transmission  
19 cooperatives, will meet the requirements of the state renewable  
20 portfolio standard of fifty percent by 2024, six years earlier  
21 than the estimated time of arrival mandate; and

22           WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are using  
23 new technologies to ensure reliable and affordable electricity,  
24 including broadband service, to underserved areas within their  
25 service territories, helping to connect rural New Mexico and

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1 stimulate economic development;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 3,  
4 2023 be declared "New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Day" in  
5 the house of representatives; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that rural electric cooperatives be  
7 acknowledged for their immeasurable contributions, economic  
8 benefits and commitment to rural electrification in New Mexico;  
9 and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to the board president and the chief executive  
12 officer of the New Mexico rural electric cooperative  
13 association.