

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 URGING NEW MEXICANS TO CONSIDER PRIVATE HUMANITARIAN  
12 SPONSORSHIP OF IMMIGRANTS.

13  
14 WHEREAS, immigration is the foundation of America; and

15 WHEREAS, with the important exception of those descended  
16 from Native peoples and enslaved Africans, few people in this  
17 country cannot trace at least part of their ancestry to an  
18 immigrant, either directly or centuries ago; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico has a unique history and perspective  
20 of the benefits of immigration and assimilation; and

21 WHEREAS, according to American immigration council  
22 statistics, nearly one in ten New Mexico residents is an  
23 immigrant, while one in nine residents is a native-born United  
24 States citizen with at least one immigrant parent; and

25 WHEREAS, immigrant workers comprised twelve percent of New

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1 Mexico's labor force in 2018 and have contributed hundreds of  
2 millions of dollars in taxes; and

3 WHEREAS, as consumers, immigrants add billions of dollars  
4 to New Mexico's economy; and

5 WHEREAS, there are opportunities for United States  
6 citizens to support the humanitarian goal of assisting with  
7 immigration; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States citizenship and immigration  
9 services of the United States department of homeland security  
10 provides processes through which nationals of Cuba, Haiti,  
11 Nicaragua and Venezuela, and their immediate family members,  
12 may request to come into the United States in a safe and  
13 orderly way; and

14 WHEREAS, through private humanitarian sponsorship, United  
15 States citizens have the opportunity to support nationals from  
16 Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela by agreeing to provide the  
17 nationals with financial support during the duration of their  
18 time in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, the nationals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and  
20 Venezuela have the potential of adding financial and cultural  
21 resources to local communities; and

22 WHEREAS, Central American countries have similarities and  
23 cultural ties to New Mexico; and

24 WHEREAS, immigrants bring valuable skills to New Mexico,  
25 with the opportunity of gainful employment; and

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