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SENATE MEMORIAL 1

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

INTRODUCED BY

Gregg Schmedes

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO
CONSIDER RESTORATION OF THE ROUTE 66 MUSICAL HIGHWAY.

WHEREAS, in 2014, the National Geographic channel got
permission from the New Mexico department of transportation to
build one thousand three hundred feet of the "route 66 musical
highway" in Tijeras canyon; and

WHEREAS, the strip plays a short clip of "America the
Beautiful"; and

WHEREAS, *Roadside America* describes how the highway was
heated with giant blowtorches and a special rumble strip was
pressed into the hot asphalt just inside the white line marking
the edge of the road; and

WHEREAS, audio engineers designed strip patterns to
produce the individual note of a song when driven over at the

underscoring material = new
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1 proper speed; and

2 WHEREAS, the musical highway was only installed in the
3 eastbound lane of route 66; and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico musical highway is only one of six
5 of its kind in the world and the second in the United States;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the musical highway has fallen into great
8 disrepair, with a section covered over with asphalt, leaving
9 only a small section of the musical highway working properly;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the signs for the musical highway have also been
12 removed; and

13 WHEREAS, if restored, the musical highway would have the
14 potential for being a great asset for New Mexico tourism and
15 the enjoyment of residents alike;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
17 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico department of transportation
18 be requested to consider restoration of the route 66 musical
19 highway; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the secretary of transportation.

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