

1 A MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING JANUARY 25, 2024 "HIDALGO COUNTY DAY" IN THE
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4
5 WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg, the village of Virden
6 and Hidalgo county are the southwestern gateway to New
7 Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county borders Arizona and Mexico and
9 was created from the southwest portion of Grant county in
10 1919; and

11 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county was named for a Mexican patriot
12 and Roman catholic priest, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a
13 leader of the Mexican war of independence who is known as
14 "the father of the nation" in Mexico; and

15 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county was the home of Chiricahua
16 Apache chief Geronimo; and

17 WHEREAS, during World War II, Hidalgo county was
18 designated as a bombing range for pilots in training, and
19 remains of the bombing can be seen today; and

20 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is known as the "boot heel" of
21 New Mexico, boasting two ghost towns, a geothermal generating
22 plant and abundant opportunities for bird watching and
23 hiking; and

24 WHEREAS, the Continental Divide trail begins in Hidalgo
25 county, with its trailhead at Crazy Cook mountain; and

1 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is rich in minerals, including
2 copper and gold, and some abandoned mines can be seen today;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and
5 technology's Playas training and research center is in
6 Hidalgo county; and

7 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county includes two incorporated
8 communities, the city of Lordsburg and the village of Virden,
9 and unincorporated communities Animas, Cotton City, Rodeo,
10 Playas, Franklin and Windmill; and

11 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county has two public school districts:
12 the Animas public school district, home of the panthers, and
13 the Lordsburg municipal school district, home of the
14 mavericks; and

15 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is home to world champion bull
16 rider Owen Washburn and sports shooter Todd Bensley, who
17 competed in the 1984 and 1988 Olympic games; and

18 WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg was incorporated in 1880
19 on the route of the southern Pacific railroad; and

20 WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg is the site of New
21 Mexico's first airport, and is also recognized as the place
22 where a portion of the New Mexico state song was written; and

23 WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg is the county seat of
24 Hidalgo county; and

25 WHEREAS, the village of Virden, previously known as

1 Richmond, was incorporated in 1916; and

2 WHEREAS, the village of Virden is the northern
3 agricultural hub of Hidalgo county and the picturesque Gila
4 river flows through it; and

5 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county has a fascinating history and is
6 a unique part of the American southwest;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 25,
9 2024 be proclaimed "Hidalgo County Day" in the house of
10 representatives; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 transmitted to the mayor and members of the city council of
13 the city of Lordsburg, the mayor and members of the village
14 council of the village of Virden and the Hidalgo county board
15 of county commissioners.

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