

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING 2026 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN
3 FARMER IN NEW MEXICO.

4
5 WHEREAS, the United Nations general assembly has
6 declared 2026 the "International Year of the Woman Farmer",
7 recognizing the vital role women play in agriculture, food
8 production and sustaining rural economies worldwide; and

9 WHEREAS, this designation provides an opportunity to
10 highlight and celebrate the essential contributions of women
11 in agriculture and encourage policies and investments that
12 empower women farmers, ranchers and agribusiness
13 professionals; and

14 WHEREAS, organizations such as the national association
15 of state departments of agriculture and its members are
16 championing the International Year of the Woman Farmer to
17 uplift, equip, connect and recognize women in agriculture
18 across the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, according to the 2022 census of agriculture,
20 there are approximately fifteen thousand female farmers and
21 ranchers in New Mexico, accounting for forty-one percent of
22 all agricultural producers in the state; and

23 WHEREAS, eighty-four percent of New Mexico farms and
24 ranches are family operated, producing the beef, chile,
25 pecans, onions, dairy and other commodities for which the

1 state is known; and

2 WHEREAS, women farmers and ranchers in New Mexico not
3 only cultivate the land but also contribute to research and
4 development, manufacturing, sales and distribution,
5 innovation, entrepreneurship, conservation, leadership in
6 food systems, agricultural education, community resilience,
7 agribusiness and advocacy, which extends benefits to
8 individuals around the globe; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico's agricultural sector is a diverse
10 and dynamic part of the state's economy, contributing nearly
11 three billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000) annually, employing
12 tens of thousands of people, encompassing more than forty
13 million acres of agricultural land and preserving rural
14 heritage, food security, local jobs and community well-being;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico recognizes the significant positive
17 influence women in agriculture have on food resources and the
18 agricultural workforce; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico women in agriculture have been
20 recognized as national leaders by serving as presidents of
21 national organizations, serving on national committees and by
22 induction in the national agricultural center and hall of
23 fame, the national cowgirl museum and hall of fame and the
24 national cowboy and western heritage museum's hall of great
25 westerners, to name a few;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that 2026 be
recognized as the International Year of the Woman Farmer in
New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the members of the legislature. _____