

1 dozens and dozens of cowboys who were making things difficult
2 for the Mexicans in that settlement; and

3 WHEREAS, Deputy Baca arrested one cowboy and, when other
4 cowboys tried to free the prisoner, he engaged the others in a
5 shootout in which one cowboy was wounded and another killed
6 when that cowboy fell from his horse; and

7 WHEREAS, following that incident, Baca was forced to hole
8 himself up in a "jacal" and defend himself by shooting through
9 the rafters as some eighty cowboys poured bullets into the hut
10 and later tried to burn it down; and

11 WHEREAS, Elfego Baca held off the cowboys for thirty-six
12 hours, killing four men and injuring another eight until he
13 finally surrendered to Deputy Sheriff Frank Rose; and

14 WHEREAS, during his trial on murder charges, the door of
15 the "jacal", reportedly peppered with four hundred bullet
16 holes, was submitted as evidence, which helped lead to Baca's
17 acquittal; and

18 WHEREAS, he has been the subject of a Walt Disney
19 television series entitled "The Nine Lives of Elfego Baca",
20 books and many histories of the time period; and

21 WHEREAS, as a legend in his own lifetime and a folk hero
22 after his death at the age of eighty, Elfego Baca stands as a
23 picturesque character, a man who was more than a gunfighter and
24 ruffian but a man whose eventful life in the time of the
25 settlement of the old west stands as a testament to championing

1 the poor and the Hispanic citizens of the state of New Mexico;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it extend its recognition of Elfego
4 Baca for his dedication to the state of New Mexico and take
5 pride in his part of the history of the old west.

6 - 3 -
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25