

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 13

2 45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 William W. Fuller

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10 A JOINT RESOLUTION

11 PROPOSING THE SALE OR LONG-TERM LEASE OF THE FORT STANTON
12 FACILITY IN LINCOLN COUNTY.

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14 WHEREAS, Section 13-6-3 NMSA 1978 requires ratification
15 and approval of any sale, trade or lease for a period exceeding
16 twenty-five years of state property of over one hundred
17 thousand dollars (\$100,000) in value; and

18 WHEREAS, since Fort Stanton was established as a federal
19 military fort in Lincoln county in 1855, it has played a
20 variety of important and colorful roles in local and regional
21 history and is a rich and valuable cultural asset; and

22 WHEREAS, Fort Stanton is one of the eleven most endangered
23 properties in New Mexico, is recognized in the state register
24 of cultural properties and the national register of historic
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underscored material = new
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1 places and is comprised of forest and grazing lands,
2 agricultural fields, historic building complexes,
3 archaeological sites, two cemeteries and a distinctive cultural
4 landscape; and

5 WHEREAS, use of Fort Stanton as a state health care
6 facility was discontinued in 1995 as a result of a federal
7 court mandate; and

8 WHEREAS, since 1995, the property control division of the
9 general services department has found no suitable long-term
10 state use for the Fort Stanton facility; and

11 WHEREAS, Subsection I of Section 34 of Chapter 23 of Laws
12 2000 (2nd S.S.) appropriated fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)
13 from the general fund to the capital program fund for a
14 feasibility study on uses of the Fort Stanton facility; and

15 WHEREAS, the property control division is desirous of
16 finding a viable use for the Fort Stanton facility, which may
17 involve the sale or lease for a period exceeding twenty-five
18 years of the facility; and

19 WHEREAS, the sale or long-term lease of the facility may
20 include the adjoining state-owned Camp Sierra Blanca facility,
21 currently operated by contract as a environmental work camp for
22 juvenile offenders under jurisdiction of the children, youth
23 and families department; and

24 WHEREAS, Fort Stanton is more particularly described as a
25 tract of land containing one thousand three hundred twenty-four

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1 and eighty-seven-thousandths acres more or less and
2 improvements thereon as shown on a plat of a boundary survey
3 record in CAB F, SL 205 of the records of Lincoln county, which
4 acreage includes Camp Sierra Blanca; and

5 WHEREAS, the property control division of the general
6 services department may decide to eliminate Camp Sierra Blanca
7 from a sale or lease, and that property is described as a tract
8 of land containing fifty-seven and eight-hundred-six-
9 thousandths acres more or less and improvements thereon as
10 shown on a plat of a boundary survey recorded in CAB F, SL 205
11 of the records of Lincoln county; and

12 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that the best and highest
13 possible use of the significant historical resource of Fort
14 Stanton is other than providing state services; and

15 WHEREAS, the property shall not be sold for less than the
16 value of the property established by the taxation and revenue
17 department using generally acceptable appraisal techniques for
18 this type of property;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
20 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the proposed sale or long-term lease
21 of the Fort Stanton facility be hereby ratified and approved
22 pursuant to the provisions of Section 13-6-3 NMSA 1978; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Fort Stanton site is
24 sold to a private non-governmental entity, the state shall
25 place protective preservation covenants on the landscape and

1 all of the character-defining features of the fort as well as
2 the necessary water rights for the long-term preservation of
3 the site for the people of New Mexico; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
5 transmitted to the property control division of the general
6 services department and the board of county commissioners of
7 Lincoln county.

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