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1 and promotion of New Mexico tourism, arts and crafts and
2 general scientific knowledge; and

3 WHEREAS, there were two hundred five thousand Native
4 Americans in New Mexico in 2003, comprising eleven percent of
5 the population of the state; and

6 WHEREAS, from 2000 through 2003, New Mexico ranked fifth
7 of all states in terms of Native American populations and saw
8 an increase of eight thousand four hundred thirty Native
9 Americans during that period; and

10 WHEREAS, McKinley county ranks third nationwide in terms
11 of its Native American population, with fifty-eight thousand
12 Native Americans comprising seventy-eight percent of its
13 population; and San Juan county ranks seventh, with forty-six
14 thousand Native Americans comprising eighty-eight percent of
15 its population; and

16 WHEREAS, in cities with a population over one hundred
17 thousand, Albuquerque ranks fourth in terms of its Native
18 American population, with twenty-two thousand forty-seven
19 Native Americans, constituting nearly five percent of its
20 population; and

21 WHEREAS, the average national poverty rate for Native
22 Americans from 2001 to 2003 was twenty percent; and

23 WHEREAS, Native Americans have the highest percentage,
24 nearly twenty-nine percent, of people who have no health
25 insurance; and

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1 WHEREAS, only fourteen percent of Native Americans over
2 the age of twenty-five hold bachelors' degrees; and

3 WHEREAS, the tribal nations of New Mexico have sovereign
4 jurisdiction within their reservations and have become
5 increasingly self-determining in the administration and
6 management of their people and natural resources; and

7 WHEREAS, the mining of coal, oil and gas on Native
8 American lands in New Mexico contributes substantially to New
9 Mexico's economy; and

10 WHEREAS, the oldest and most senior water rights are held
11 by Native American tribes in New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, the department of housing and urban development,
13 the Indian health service in the department of health and human
14 services and the bureau of Indian affairs in the department of
15 the interior contribute substantial resources to housing,
16 roads, community infrastructure and schools for Native
17 Americans in New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, Indian casinos employ over nine thousand people
19 in New Mexico and contributed approximately eighty million
20 dollars (\$80,000,000) to the revenues of the state in 2004; and

21 WHEREAS, Indian tribes are among the largest single
22 employers in Bernalillo, Cibola, McKinley, Otero, Sandoval and
23 San Juan counties; and

24 WHEREAS, the American planning association created a new
25 eighteenth division in indigenous planning, whose mission is to

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1 foster an interdisciplinary approach to planning that upholds
2 Native American land tenure, values and cultural world views in
3 community development;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all federal, state, local and tribal
6 planning agencies be encouraged to cooperate and support the
7 initiatives of the American planning association's indigenous
8 planning division; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher
10 education, all New Mexico post-secondary institutions and the
11 Indian affairs department support and promote careers and
12 training in planning for the benefit of tribal communities; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all planners who work for or
14 with tribal communities be encouraged to convene a statewide
15 summit on indigenous planning; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 distributed to all Native American tribes in New Mexico, the
18 Indian affairs department, the public education department and
19 the commission on higher education.

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