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SENATE MEMORIAL 19

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006**

INTRODUCED BY

Leonard Tsosie

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THREE IMPORTANT NEW MEXICANS TO  
THE CULTURE AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL NEW MEXICANS.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico and its citizens lost  
three important New Mexicans in recent months; and

WHEREAS, Dyan Jojola, a member of the Isleta pueblo who  
passed away at age fifty in August 2005, worked tirelessly on  
Native American education issues, implementing literacy  
programs, speaking out on environmental issues and breaking  
down the digital divide for which she was honored posthumously  
with a New Mexico distinguished public service award last year;  
and

WHEREAS, R.C. Gorman, called the "Picasso of American  
Indian art" by *The New York Times*, who passed away at age  
seventy-four in November 2005, was considered by many to be the

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1 premier Native American artist whose simple and lyrical images  
2 attracted many collectors and admirers; and

3 WHEREAS, Pablita Velarde, born and raised on the Santa  
4 Clara pueblo, who passed away at age eighty-seven in January  
5 2006, was one of the first Native American painters who became  
6 famous for her images of Native Americans in ceremonial poses  
7 and the paintings and murals she created at Bandelier national  
8 monument as part of the Works Progress Administration; and

9 WHEREAS, Native American artists who incorporate elements  
10 of their native heritage, traditions and culture in their art  
11 have been extremely important in bringing world attention to  
12 the American southwest and tribal populations; and

13 WHEREAS, each of these individuals has played a  
14 significant role in increasing appreciation of the value and  
15 beauty of cultural diversity in our lives;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
17 OF NEW MEXICO that Dyan Jojola, R.C. Gorman and Pablita Velarde  
18 be recognized for their contributions to their native state and  
19 the value and beauty of cultural diversity; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
21 transmitted to the families of Dyan Jojola, R.C. Gorman and  
22 Pablita Velarde.

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