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HOUSE MEMORIAL 67

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 10, 2008 "SANTA FE FOUR HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY DAY" AT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMEMORATING THE MORE THAN FOUR-HUNDRED-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT AND FOUNDING OF LA VILLA REAL DE LA SANTA FE DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS, 1607-1610.

WHEREAS, before 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio Grande region of New Mexico had inhabited the area now officially known as La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San Francisco de Asis, commonly called Santa Fe, for hundreds of years; and

WHEREAS, from the first arrival of New Mexico's Spanish colonists in August of 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio Grande and adjoining regions of New Mexico provided support and sustenance to those colonists, which allowed the colonists to persevere at San Gabriel del Yunque, the first villa and

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1 capital of New Mexico located in the pueblo lands of Okeh
2 Owinge, as well as at other small outlying settlements; and

3 WHEREAS, from the time of 1607, there existed a small
4 settlement of Spanish colonists in that same area; and

5 WHEREAS, on March 30, 1609, the viceroy of New Spain,
6 Martin Lopez de Gauna, upon the appointment of Don Pedro de
7 Peralta as governor and captain general of New Mexico, ordered
8 Governor Peralta to arrive in New Mexico before the end of 1609
9 and to establish a villa at the site of what is now Santa Fe;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, by 1610, Governor Peralta had established his
12 villa at the site of what is now Santa Fe; and

13 WHEREAS, the pueblo people of New Mexico became part of
14 the extended community of the Spanish colonists, providing a
15 pool for intermarriage and becoming a source, both willingly
16 and unwillingly, of labor and economic support for the
17 colonists; and

18 WHEREAS, the Spanish colonists and the pueblo people
19 engaged in a two-way exchange of knowledge and cultural
20 folkways that would be mutually advantageous for both peoples;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, seventy years following the establishment of the
23 villa of Santa Fe, the pueblo people took up arms and forced
24 the inhabitants of the villa to retreat to El Paso in what was
25 then southern New Mexico; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 1692, the Spanish colonists began a return to
2 the villa, which, following an initial peaceful return,
3 resulted in an armed conflict lasting through 1696; and

4 WHEREAS, following the repopulation of Santa Fe and
5 reinstitution of Spanish government in New Mexico, the pueblo
6 people found ways to protect their traditional ways while
7 adapting to the Spanish form of government and continuing the
8 process of mutual cultural interchange and support; and

9 WHEREAS, over the following years into the twentieth
10 century and despite intermittent disputes, the colonists and
11 their descendants, many of whom were and are tied by blood to
12 the pueblo people and other surrounding Native American tribes,
13 and the pueblo people and other surrounding Native American
14 tribes formed alliances and accommodated each other's cultures,
15 allowing Santa Fe to flourish; and

16 WHEREAS, the peaceful acceptance of each other's cultures
17 continued through the United States' conquest of New Mexico
18 during the war with Mexico and contributed to the evolution of
19 Santa Fe's cultural heritage, and it resulted in the
20 recognition by the state and federal governments of the
21 sovereignty rights of the pueblo people, including their rights
22 to self-government; and

23 WHEREAS, during the period of 2008 through 2010, Santa Fe
24 shall proudly observe the four-hundred-year anniversary of its
25 settlement and subsequent founding as a villa and its

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1 multicultural heritage with suitable events and observances by
2 the residents of Santa Fe to commemorate its first four hundred
3 years and to pass on to future generations the Indo-Hispano
4 heritage of Santa Fe and the surrounding region; and

5 WHEREAS, it is important that the commemoration provide a
6 foundation for healing the past and opening the way for a
7 permanent reconciliation between the descendants of Santa Fe's
8 Spanish colonists and the pueblo peoples and surrounding Native
9 American tribes as well as the descendants of all of the other
10 Santa Fe settlers who have contributed to Santa Fe's
11 multicultural heritage;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 10,
14 2008 be declared "Santa Fe Four Hundredth Anniversary Day" at
15 the house of representatives and that congratulations be
16 expressed to the residents of Santa Fe and gratitude be
17 expressed to the surrounding pueblo communities for the
18 commemoration of the four-hundred-year establishment of Santa
19 Fe as a villa; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pueblo people and the
21 citizens of Santa Fe be invited and encouraged to participate
22 in ceremonies of reconciliation and mutual recognition in
23 furtherance of the more than four-hundred-year history of Santa
24 Fe; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to the mayor and city council of the city of Santa
2 Fe and to the governors and tribal councils of all the pueblos
3 of New Mexico and to the other surrounding Native American
4 tribes.

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