

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING JANUARY 21, 2009 "SANTA FE FOUR HUNDREDTH
3 ANNIVERSARY DAY" AT THE SENATE AND COMMEMORATING THE MORE
4 THAN FOUR-HUNDRED-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT AND
5 FOUNDING OF LA VILLA REAL DE LA SANTA FE DE SAN FRANCISCO DE
6 ASIS, 1607-1610.

7
8 WHEREAS, before 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio
9 Grande region of New Mexico had inhabited the area now
10 officially known as La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San
11 Francisco de Asis, commonly called Santa Fe, for hundreds of
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, from the first arrival of New Mexico's Spanish
14 colonists in August of 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio
15 Grande and adjoining regions of New Mexico provided support
16 and sustenance to those colonists, which allowed the
17 colonists to persevere at San Gabriel del Yunque, the first
18 villa and capital of New Mexico located in the pueblo lands
19 of Ohkay Owingeh, as well as at other small outlying
20 settlements; and

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

23 WHEREAS, on March 30, 1609, the viceroy of New Spain,
24 Martin Lopez de Gauna, upon the appointment of Don Pedro de
25 Peralta as governor and captain general of New Mexico,

1 ordered Governor Peralta to arrive in New Mexico before the
2 end of 1609 and to establish a villa at the site of what is
3 now Santa Fe; and

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

6 WHEREAS, the pueblo people of New Mexico became part of
7 the extended community of the Spanish colonists, providing a
8 pool for intermarriage and becoming a source, both willingly
9 and unwillingly, of labor and economic support for the
10 colonists; and

11 WHEREAS, the Spanish colonists and the pueblo people
12 engaged in a two-way exchange of knowledge and cultural
13 folkways that would be mutually advantageous for both
14 peoples; and

15 WHEREAS, seventy years following the establishment of
16 the villa of Santa Fe, the pueblo people took up arms and
17 forced the inhabitants of the villa to retreat to El Paso in
18 what was then southern New Mexico; and

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

22 WHEREAS, following the repopulation of Santa Fe and
23 reinstatement of Spanish government in New Mexico, the pueblo
24 people found ways to protect their traditional ways while
25 adapting to the Spanish form of government and continuing the

1 process of mutual cultural interchange and support; and

2 WHEREAS, over the following years into the twentieth
3 century and despite intermittent disputes, the colonists and
4 their descendants, many of whom were and are tied by blood to
5 the pueblo people and other surrounding Native American
6 tribes, and the pueblo people and other surrounding Native
7 American tribes formed alliances and accommodated each
8 other's cultures, allowing Santa Fe to flourish; and

9 WHEREAS, the peaceful acceptance of each other's
10 cultures continued through the United States' conquest of
11 New Mexico during the war with Mexico and contributed to the
12 evolution of Santa Fe's cultural heritage, and it resulted in
13 the recognition by the state and federal governments of the
14 sovereignty rights of the pueblo people, including their
15 rights to self-government; and

16 WHEREAS, during the period of 2008 through 2010,
17 Santa Fe will proudly observe the four-hundred-year
18 anniversary of its settlement and subsequent founding as a
19 villa and its multicultural heritage with suitable events and
20 observances by the residents of Santa Fe to commemorate its
21 first four hundred years and to pass on to future generations
22 the Indian-Hispanic heritage of Santa Fe and the surrounding
23 region; and

24 WHEREAS, it is important that the commemoration provide
25 a foundation for healing the past and opening the way for a

1 permanent reconciliation between the descendants of
2 Santa Fe's Spanish colonists and the pueblo peoples and
3 surrounding Native American tribes as well as the descendants
4 of all of the other Santa Fe settlers who have contributed to
5 Santa Fe's multicultural heritage;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 21, 2009 be declared "Santa
8 Fe Four Hundredth Anniversary Day" at the senate and that
9 congratulations be expressed to the residents of Santa Fe and
10 gratitude be expressed to the surrounding pueblo communities
11 for the commemoration of the four-hundred-year establishment
12 of Santa Fe as a villa; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pueblo people and the
14 citizens of Santa Fe be invited and encouraged to participate
15 in ceremonies of reconciliation and mutual recognition in
16 furtherance of the more than four-hundred-year history of
17 Santa Fe; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the mayor and city council of the city of Santa
20 Fe and to the governors and tribal councils of all the pueblos
21 of New Mexico and to the other surrounding Native American
22 tribes.

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