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HOUSE MEMORIAL 8

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING JANUARY 28, 2009 AS "SANTA FE OPERA DAY" IN THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera has offered fifty-two years of
opera performances in New Mexico, receiving international
recognition for its artistic excellence and innovation; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera attracts outstanding singers,
conductors, directors and creative personnel to New Mexico
every summer; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera contributes to the
continuation of the operatic art form by commissioning new
operas and performing American premieres; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera's apprentice programs for
singers and technicians contribute to the training of one
hundred young professionals each year, and over the past

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1 fifty-two years have provided opportunities to four thousand
2 two hundred young people to prepare for careers in the arts;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera provides performances of the
5 highest caliber to all eighty-five thousand who attend; and

6 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera attracts visitors from all
7 fifty states and numerous countries to its performances,
8 annually contributing an estimated two hundred two million
9 dollars (\$202,000,000) to the economy of the state of New
10 Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera currently spends more than
12 seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) a year to
13 provide educational and community programs serving more than
14 sixty thousand New Mexicans; and

15 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe opera celebrates its change in
16 leadership with the appointment of native New Mexican Charles
17 MacKay to the post of general director;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 28,
20 2009 be recognized as "Santa Fe Opera Day" in the house of
21 representatives.