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HOUSE MEMORIAL 77

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

INTRODUCED BY

James Roger Madalena

A MEMORIAL

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHAMIZA FOUNDATION AND OF GIFFORD AND JOANN PHILLIPS FOR THEIR TWENTY-YEAR COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING THE CULTURAL INTEGRITY OF NEW MEXICO'S NINETEEN PUEBLOS.

WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation, a private, independent family foundation, was conceived and founded by Gifford and Joann Phillips in 1989 with an endowment of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) and is devoted exclusively to the support of the nineteen Pueblo Indian tribes in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation was guided in its formative stages by Ohkay Owingeh elder and scholar, Alfonso Ortiz, and by writer and scholar, Edward T. Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation's mission has been to mitigate the influences of acculturation by supporting grassroots programs to enable the pueblos to retain, restore

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1 and nourish traditional life ways; and

2 WHEREAS, over the past twenty years, Chamiza foundation
3 grants have supported a wide spectrum of community endeavors in
4 all nineteen pueblos, including language instruction,
5 traditional arts, youth education, traditional agriculture,
6 collecting and documenting tribal historical and archival
7 information and strengthening intergenerational relations; and

8 WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation's impressive record is
9 only part of a larger and inspiring story in which the pueblo
10 communities of New Mexico are working, often in the face of
11 difficult challenges, to sustain their culture; and

12 WHEREAS, Gifford and Joann Phillips continue their
13 commitment to the Chamiza foundation with the involvement of
14 their son, James L. Phillips, and their daughters, Marjorie
15 Phillips Elliott and Alice Phillips Swistel, all of whom are
16 active members of the Chamiza foundation board of directors;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation is privileged to have on
19 its fifteen-member board seven pueblo members, the largest
20 single group of pueblo directors sitting on any foundation
21 board in the country, which pueblo members include Cynthia
22 Chavez Lamar, arts and cultural scholar; Ted Jojola, educator;
23 Hayes Lewis, educator; Diane Reyna, artist and educator;
24 Beverly Singer, artist and educator; Mia Toya, artist and
25 educator; and Brian Vallo, artist and cultural preservationist;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation is also honored to have as
3 members of its board Jonathan Batkin, director of the
4 Wheelwright museum; Mrs. Letitia Frank, historian; and Estevan
5 Rael-Galvez, the New Mexico state historian; and

6 WHEREAS, philanthropic giving to New Mexico Indian
7 nations, tribes and pueblos is one percent of total annual
8 charitable giving in New Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, the Chamiza foundation has been and continues to
10 be the single most significant private source of grant funds
11 for New Mexico's pueblos;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Chamiza
14 foundation and its founders Gifford and Joann Phillips be
15 commended for their leadership and work in support of the
16 nineteen pueblos in New Mexico; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, particularly in these
18 challenging economic times, philanthropic organizations be
19 encouraged to consider increasing their partnerships with
20 Indian nations, tribes and pueblos and provide greater
21 opportunities for Native Americans to serve at every level in
22 philanthropic organizations, such as the Chamiza foundation has
23 done; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to each of the members of the board of directors of

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the Chamiza foundation.

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