

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF BILL DALLEY TO COLLECT AND
3 PRESERVE WINDMILLS AS A VALUABLE REPRESENTATION OF EARLY
4 WESTERN HERITAGE IN ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

5
6 WHEREAS, wind energy is one of the oldest sources of
7 energy used by humankind; and

8 WHEREAS, there are references to the existence of
9 windmills relating to a Persian millwright in 644 A.D. and to
10 windmills in Persia in 915 A.D.; and

11 WHEREAS, windmills appeared in Europe in 1180 A.D. and
12 were developed for a variety of purposes, including wind
13 pumps that were used by the Dutch to drain their low-lying
14 lands; and

15 WHEREAS, after a decline in the use of windmills, a
16 resurgence was seen in rural America as windmills began to be
17 used for pumping water from wells; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1854, the first wind pump was introduced in
19 the United States by David Halliday, whose multivaned wind
20 pump was misnamed the windmill; and

21 WHEREAS, other inventors followed, including the
22 Reverend Leonard H. Wheeler, whose windmill called the
23 Eclipse became the best-known windmill in his area in 1867;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, after another American, Stewart Parry, began

1 constructing wind pumps made of steel and equipped with metal
2 vanes in 1883, the popularity of windmills spread around the
3 world; and

4 WHEREAS, although primarily used for pumping water,
5 other uses for windmills were soon found, including cutting
6 wood, grinding feed, shelling corn and performing other daily
7 chores; and

8 WHEREAS, at a cost of only a few pennies a day,
9 windmills eased the backbreaking burden of many farmers and
10 settlers of early days; and

11 WHEREAS, homemade windmills were often constructed of
12 whatever materials were on hand and came to be known by such
13 colorful names as the four-blade battle ax, the two-blade
14 battle ax, the barrel mill, the go-devil and even a butter
15 churn; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Dalley of Portales, New Mexico, has
17 assembled an impressive collection of windmills, including
18 thirteen solid-wheel wooden mills, thirteen vaneless mills,
19 three miscellaneous mills and nine incomplete mills for a
20 total of eighty-five windmills in his collection; and

21 WHEREAS, twenty-five additional windmills have been
22 restored by Bill Dalley for individual collectors or for
23 museums; and

24 WHEREAS, Bill Dalley has taken on this project out of a
25 love for history and to preserve a part of early western

1 heritage in Roosevelt county;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the efforts of Bill Dalley to
4 collect and preserve windmills be recognized and appreciated;
5 and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that recognition also be extended
7 to Bill Dalley's wife, Alta Dalley, who supports his efforts
8 and endures his collection of junk, his son and
9 daughter-in-law Don and Ronda Dalley, his daughter and
10 son-in-law, Sherri and Mark McAfee, and to his daughter and
11 son-in-law, Diane and Steve Harris, for their hard work and
12 help in preserving the collection; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to Bill and Alta Dalley and to Diana and Steve
15 Harris.

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