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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 17
49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY
Karen E. Giannini

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE
RECOGNIZE NEW MEXICO AS THE FORTY-SEVENTH STATE OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS, with the exception of a few weeks during the
Civil War, since the Republic of Mexico's secession and sale of
the state's territory to the United States of America via the
Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Gadsden Purchase, New
Mexico has been a part of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, in the year 1912, New Mexico became the forty-
seventh state of the union; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has historical ties to the Republic of
Mexico and the Spanish North American empire; and

WHEREAS, despite its historical ties to Mexico and the
Spanish empire, New Mexico has been independent of those

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1 foreign lands for well over a century and a half; and

2 WHEREAS, individuals born or naturalized in the state of
3 New Mexico are citizens of the United States of America; and

4 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico is located on the
5 continent of North America; and

6 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico is bordered by the states
7 of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas as well as the
8 Republic of Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico is not a part of the Republic of
10 Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, English, Spanish, Diné, Tewa, Keres, Vietnamese
12 and many other indigenous and world languages are spoken by the
13 diverse populace of New Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, the cuisine of New Mexico is in fact a delicious
15 and distinct cuisine, unique to the state; and

16 WHEREAS, despite New Mexico's status as a state of the
17 United States, New Mexico's residents are often asked, by
18 residents of other states, if they have to show their passports
19 to enter New Mexico from other states or territories of the
20 United States; and

21 WHEREAS, New Mexicans are often told by postal agents and
22 shipping retailers that international postage is required to
23 ship things to other parts of the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexicans are often asked on which continent
25 their state is found; and

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1 WHEREAS, New Mexicans are routinely asked whether Spanish
2 is the only language of government, business and social life of
3 New Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexican cuisine is often mislabeled by
5 outsiders as "Mexican" or "Tex-Mex"; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexicans are routinely asked whether they are
7 citizens of the Republic of Mexico;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the people of the United States and
10 elsewhere be requested to recognize that, despite its
11 historical ties to other nations, New Mexico has belonged to
12 the United States of America for over a century and a half; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the mailing and shipping
14 agents of the United States and elsewhere be requested to
15 recognize the applicability of postage and shipping rates
16 appropriate to New Mexico's actual location in the continental
17 United States; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of the United
19 States and elsewhere be requested to consult their maps to
20 locate New Mexico within the continental United States,
21 bordering the states of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Oklahoma and
22 Texas as well as having an international boundary that
23 separates New Mexico from the Republic of Mexico; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of the United
25 States and elsewhere be requested to recognize that people born

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1 or naturalized in New Mexico are legally citizens of the United
2 States of America; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of the United
4 States and elsewhere be requested to recognize that the
5 residents of New Mexico are often speakers of English and
6 Spanish languages as well as other languages; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of the United
8 States and elsewhere be requested to recognize that the people
9 of New Mexico have a fascinating and complex history as well as
10 linguistic and cultural traditions that are unique to the
11 state; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of the United
13 States and elsewhere be requested to recognize that, since
14 1912, New Mexico has been the forty-seventh state of the United
15 States of America; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
17 transmitted to every person on the planet.