

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 9, 2011 TO BE "COLONIAS DAY AT THE
3 LEGISLATURE" AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND HER CABINET TO
4 ASSIST LOCAL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN
5 NEW MEXICO BY ADDING RURAL COMMUNITIES AND COLONIAS TO THE
6 STATE'S PRIORITY ACTION LIST OF PROGRAMS AND WATER PROJECTS
7 FOR LEGISLATIVE FUNDING.

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9 WHEREAS, the board of directors of the New Mexico
10 association of counties comprises the elected officials who
11 are responsible for the health, welfare and safety of the
12 residents of New Mexico's thirty-three counties, and these
13 board members are asked to represent and address the needs of
14 these residents; and

15 WHEREAS, rural and colonias communities are sorely
16 lacking in infrastructure, accessibility, opportunities and
17 sanitation services, and, by working together, the state and
18 individual counties could lift up these communities and
19 provide better futures for the children in the communities
20 who will in turn raise their own families on family
21 properties, thereby making meaningful progress toward
22 enhancing the most basic of human needs in these challenged
23 communities; and

24 WHEREAS, residents of rural and colonias communities
25 statewide face harsh challenges on a daily basis, but they

1 are proud people who are reluctant to ask for help; and

2 WHEREAS, individual counties continue to undertake
3 independent and ambitious infrastructure improvement plans
4 designed to enhance social and economic development
5 opportunities for all residents of New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, by initiating a statewide improvement program
7 for rural and colonias communities, the state could partner
8 with the thirty-three counties to empower these small
9 communities and dramatically improve the quality of life in
10 them, while simultaneously creating new entrepreneurial zones
11 that will complement existing projects in incorporated
12 municipalities;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 9, 2011 be recognized as
15 "Colonias Day at the Legislature"; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Martinez and her
17 cabinet be requested to work with the board of directors of
18 the New Mexico association of counties to assist local
19 efforts to improve the quality of life in the state and to
20 add improvements for rural communities and colonias to the
21 state's priority action list of programs for legislative
22 funding; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the governor and to the board of directors of
25 the New Mexico association of counties. _____