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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 19

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

A JOINT MEMORIAL

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

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

WHEREAS, rural and colonias communities are sorely lacking in infrastructure, accessibility, opportunities and sanitation

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1 services, and, by working together, the state and individual
2 counties could lift up these communities and provide better
3 futures for the children in the communities who will in turn
4 raise their own families on family properties, thereby making
5 meaningful progress toward enhancing the most basic of human
6 needs in these challenged communities; and

7 WHEREAS, residents of rural and colonias communities
8 statewide face harsh challenges on a daily basis, but they are
9 proud people who are reluctant to ask for help; and

10 WHEREAS, individual counties continue to undertake
11 independent and ambitious infrastructure improvement plans
12 designed to enhance social and economic development
13 opportunities for all residents of New Mexico; and

14 WHEREAS, by initiating a statewide improvement program for
15 rural and colonias communities, the state could partner with
16 the thirty-three counties to empower these small communities
17 and dramatically improve the quality of life in them, while
18 simultaneously creating new entrepreneurial zones that will
19 complement existing projects in incorporated municipalities;

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

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Martinez and her
24 cabinet be requested to work with the board of directors of the
25 New Mexico association of counties to assist local efforts to

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1 improve the quality of life in the state and to add
2 improvements for rural communities and colonias to the state's
3 priority action list of programs for legislative funding; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor and to the board of directors of
6 the New Mexico association of counties.

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