

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING JANUARY 30, 2012 "CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DAY IN
3 THE LEGISLATURE"; RECOGNIZING ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF STATEHOOD
4 AND WISHING THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

5
6 WHEREAS, on January 6, 1912, President William H. Taft
7 signed the bill making New Mexico the forty-seventh state
8 admitted into the union; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico's first state governor,
10 William C. McDonald, was also inaugurated on January 6, 1912;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the first state legislative session was held in
13 Santa Fe in 1912, during which Roman L. Baca was elected as
14 speaker of the house of representatives, making him the first
15 Hispanic elected in the United States to serve as a speaker
16 of the house; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Mexico house of representatives was
18 called to order on the first day of the 2012 legislative
19 session by Speaker Ben Lujan, using the same gavel used one
20 hundred years earlier by Roman L. Baca, a reminder that one
21 never has to travel far to be close to a piece of history in
22 New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, the 1912 legislative session considered bills
24 discussing teacher salaries, regulation of investments, land
25 grant recovery and the management of New Mexico's limited

1 water resources; and

2 WHEREAS, bills addressing teacher salaries, regulation
3 of investments, land grant recovery and the management of New
4 Mexico's limited water resources have been introduced in the
5 2012 legislative session; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico has established itself as a state of
7 stability and versatility, a state that values history and
8 tradition while embracing change and looking to the future;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, during its first hundred years of statehood,
11 New Mexico has distinguished itself as a leader in scientific
12 research, a destination for tourists from around the world
13 and home for several vibrant cultures that somehow manage to
14 live in harmony with one another; and

15 WHEREAS, during this first one hundred years of
16 statehood, New Mexico has served as the birthplace of the
17 first atomic bomb as well as the first green chile
18 cheeseburger; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexicans take pride in the past one hundred
20 years of their art, culture, diversity and history and in
21 their beautiful landscape; and

22 WHEREAS, New Mexico is known for doing things in a
23 unique way, because a one-of-a-kind state must alter popular
24 methods in order to address the particular needs of its
25 dynamic citizenry; and

1 WHEREAS, many dedicated New Mexicans have already taken
2 time to acknowledge the statehood centennial; and

3 WHEREAS, the New Mexico history museum has developed a
4 centennial exhibit, complete with a United States flag that
5 has only forty-seven stars, lectures and photograph and
6 poster contests; and

7 WHEREAS, communities from Raton to Lordsburg, from
8 Farmington to Jal, and from the Navajo Nation to the
9 Mescalero Apache reservation are holding events throughout
10 the year to commemorate one hundred years of statehood; and

11 WHEREAS, one hundred years from now, New Mexico will
12 continue to embody the ideals on which the state was founded,
13 and New Mexicans will once again celebrate the uniqueness and
14 traditionally rich heritage of their incredible state;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 30, 2012 be proclaimed
17 "Centennial Celebration Day in the Legislature"; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexicans across the
19 state be encouraged to take a moment to celebrate one hundred
20 years of statehood and to attend the events being held
21 throughout the year; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislators and other
23 visitors to the city of Santa Fe be encouraged to visit the
24 statehood centennial exhibit at the New Mexico history
25 museum.
