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SENATE MEMORIAL 62

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE GALLUP INTER-TRIBAL INDIAN CEREMONIAL'S LONG-
STANDING AND SIGNIFICANT PROMOTION OF NATIVE AMERICAN
COMMUNITY, PRIDE, TRADITION, TALENT, CULTURE AND ART.

WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial is a
five-day event held each August to celebrate Native American
heritage and exhibit the cultures, dances, traditions, foods,
artistic talents and athletic abilities of Native Americans;
and

WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial started
in 1922, when members of the Navajo Nation, the Pueblo of Zuni
and other pueblos marched through downtown Gallup in ceremonial
celebration; and

WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial
continues to feature parades, including a ceremonial parade

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1 that pays tribute to the Navajo Long Walk, in which thousands
2 of Navajo men, women and children during the mid-1800s were
3 forced to relocate, by foot, from their ancestral lands in what
4 is now eastern Arizona and western New Mexico to Fort Sumner in
5 eastern New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial
7 presents an opportunity for numerous tribes from the United
8 States and Mexico, including Navajo, Apache, Choctaw, Zuni,
9 Hopi, Comanche, Aztec and Totonac peoples, among others, to
10 participate together in festivities and to celebrate their
11 cultures; and

12 WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial is
13 singular in bringing together so many different Native American
14 cultures that share their dances and traditions at one event;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial
17 participants include Native American dancers, musicians,
18 royalty and horseback riders; and

19 WHEREAS, Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial
20 participants have also included Navajo code talkers who fought
21 for the United States in World War II; and

22 WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial
23 features a rodeo and a three-day competition in which Native
24 American women residing within a three-hundred-mile radius of
25 Gallup compete for the title of "Miss Gallup Inter-Tribal

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1 Indian Ceremonial"; and

2 WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial dances
3 are breathtaking displays of color, spirit and talent and are
4 performed at the dramatically beautiful Red Rocks amphitheater;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the indoor-outdoor marketplace at the Gallup
7 inter-tribal Indian ceremonial exhibits some of the finest
8 traditional and contemporary art by Native American artisans;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial is
11 recognized worldwide as an important tradition and attended by
12 people from many regions of the world; and

13 WHEREAS, the people of Gallup, New Mexico, are proud to
14 present the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial each year;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
16 OF NEW MEXICO that the Gallup inter-tribal Indian ceremonial be
17 recognized for its contributions to Native American community,
18 pride, tradition, talent, culture and art; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the director of the Gallup inter-tribal Indian
21 ceremonial and the mayor of Gallup.