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SENATE MEMORIAL 54

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Lopez

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE HOLOCAUST AND INTOLERANCE MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO AND ITS MISSION TO COMBAT HATE AND INTOLERANCE BY THE PROMOTION OF UNDERSTANDING THROUGH EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New Mexico was incorporated in 1998 by seventeen founding members led by Werner and Frances "Frankie" Gellert and Julianna Lerner; and

WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New Mexico, located in Albuquerque, opened officially in January 2001 and was the first such museum in the southwest to address issues of genocides and forms of bullying that have affected people around the world; and

WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New Mexico is not limited to one religion, culture, geographic area

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1 or time in history; and

2 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
3 Mexico's mission is to eliminate hate and intolerance, and it
4 focuses on education with youth as the target audience through
5 outreach to students and teachers; and

6 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
7 Mexico exhibits reflect a history of mankind's cruelty caused
8 by indifference, prejudice and hate; and

9 WHEREAS, about half of the holocaust and intolerance
10 museum of New Mexico focuses on the holocaust and the horrors
11 perpetuated by the Nazis against Jews and other targeted
12 populations, while another portion of the museum is dedicated
13 to other forms of intolerance worldwide; and

14 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
15 Mexico includes exhibits of the African American experience,
16 genocide of Christian minorities in the Ottoman empire and hate
17 in America; and

18 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
19 Mexico was the first United States museum to have an exhibit on
20 "Rwanda, the tolerated genocide"; and

21 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
22 Mexico is currently researching and designing an upgraded
23 exhibit on the changing destinies of Native Americans; and

24 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
25 Mexico hosted almost four thousand visitors in 2018, with one

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1 thousand eight hundred visitors from New Mexico, one thousand
2 eight hundred twenty-four visitors from other states and one
3 hundred forty-six international visitors; and

4 WHEREAS, group visits included middle and high school
5 students, previously incarcerated adults working on general
6 educational development certificates, road scholars,
7 educational travel groups and others; and

8 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
9 Mexico's education program includes internships for college and
10 high school students, including university of New Mexico
11 political science students who intern with the museum, and has
12 provided several grants to schools throughout the state; and

13 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
14 Mexico is actively involved in the community by sponsoring and
15 co-sponsoring a wide variety of events such as lectures, panel
16 discussions, film screenings, plays and dance performances; and

17 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
18 Mexico also distributes a newsletter and makes holocaust
19 teaching materials available to educators statewide; and

20 WHEREAS, the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
21 Mexico deliberately avoids the use of the word "tolerate" in
22 order to encourage individuals to warmly accept one another
23 rather than just tolerate one another;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
25 OF NEW MEXICO that the holocaust and intolerance museum of New

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1 Mexico be recognized for its mission to combat hate and
2 intolerance by the promotion of understanding through
3 education; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the holocaust and intolerance museum of New
6 Mexico.

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