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HOUSE MEMORIAL 20

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

A MEMORIAL

CONGRATULATING THE SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM ON ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum celebrates its tenth anniversary on February 21; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe children's museum was founded in 1985 by four local educators who were convinced that experiential learning is a necessary complement to traditional education; and

WHEREAS, two thousand people celebrated the opening of the facility in February 1989; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty-four thousand visitors enjoyed the museum in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the museum has six thousand members, with ten thousand school children visiting the facility and ten

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1 thousand people participating in outreach programs; and

2 WHEREAS, the museum's accomplishments include:

3 A. development of a model informal learning
4 environment where families can play and learn together and
5 children can take responsibility for their own learning;

6 B. development of quality educational exhibits
7 designed to intrigue the mind and elicit questions about
8 learning;

9 C. establishment of the education connection, a
10 field-trip program that serves over ten thousand school
11 children per year, including after-school groups from the
12 boys' and girls' club and Monica Roybal center;

13 D. consistent art and science education
14 programming that is free with museum admission;

15 E. an exciting environmental education program
16 centered around earthworks, its southwestern horticultural
17 garden and nine-hundred-square-foot greenhouse;

18 F. informal parent education programming with a
19 bilingual child development specialist on site each week;

20 G. publication of "Voices of Violence/Visions of
21 Peace", a book documenting Santa Feans' experiences with
22 violence and including a section for parents on raising caring
23 children;

24 H. establishment of a permanent outreach project,
25 museum-on-wheels, at the children's hospital of New Mexico in

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- Albuquerque;
- I. commitment to a diverse, community-based board of trustees;
 - J. coordination of community educational events such as workshops by Dr. Howard Gardner, Bernice McCarthy and T. Berry Brazelton;
 - K. establishment of a vital teen volunteer and paid intern program serving over seventy-five youths per year, including referrals from teen court;
 - L. sound fiscal management of the organization, never operating under a deficit and increasing the budget only when funds become available;
 - M. expansion of the number of people served through outreach programs such as free Sundays, free passes and sponsored low-income family memberships; and
 - N. implementation and administration with the Santa Fe public schools of los amigos summer day camp, a program for eighty five-, six- and seven-year-olds at Agua Fria elementary school; and

WHEREAS, the museum is a community-based organization that is client centered with roughly sixty-five percent of its clients being children and eighty-five percent parents or teachers of children; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Santa Fe children's museum is to build upon a child's natural sense of joy and discovery by

1 cultivating habits of inquiry in the arts, sciences and
2 humanities;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it
5 congratulate and extend recognition to the Santa Fe children's
6 museum on its tenth anniversary; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the Santa Fe children's museum.

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