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SENATE MEMORIAL 33

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

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Jane M Garcia

A MEMORIAL

HONORING THE LATE GEORGIA O' KEEFFE FOR HER MANY COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE NEW GEORGIA O' KEEFFE MUSEUM FOR ITS EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, New Mexicans are proud of the association between the late Georgia O' Keeffe and their state, being fond in particular of her unique appreciation and expression of the beauty found here; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the small community of Abiquiu, Miss O' Keeffe ignored her celebrity and, with the same honest humility, the people of her village protected her privacy; and

WHEREAS, in the best tradition of genuine neighborliness, Miss O' Keeffe quietly contributed to a variety of community projects, including the construction of Abiquiu's modern domestic water delivery system and the community gymnasium

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1 that is used for sporting events, weddings and other community
2 gatherings; and

3 WHEREAS, the artist was the main private contributor to
4 the new public elementary school built in the 1970s; and

5 WHEREAS, her generosity helped several local businesses
6 get started, and she herself regularly employed as many as a
7 dozen village residents in various capacities; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia O'Keeffe contributed to or paid for the
9 college education of numerous young Abiquiu students, even
10 sending some to study in Europe; and

11 WHEREAS, thanks to the generosity of Santa Fe
12 philanthropists Anne and John Marion, our capital city now
13 boasts the Georgia O'Keeffe museum with the largest and only
14 permanent collection of the artist's works in the world; and

15 WHEREAS, opened in mid-1997, the Georgia O'Keeffe museum
16 has drawn nearly five hundred thousand visitors from all over
17 the world; and

18 WHEREAS, the museum offers free to the public a variety
19 of education and outreach programs, including professional
20 development workshops and seminars for teachers and art
21 educators and an intensive art and leadership summer program
22 for girls; and

23 WHEREAS, other community programs offered by the Georgia
24 O'Keeffe museum include collaborations with schools, arts
25 councils, educational outreach in human service and community

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1 agencies, family programs, arts after school, statewide
2 lectures and scholarly speakers, a docent program and a
3 university internship program;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
5 OF NEW MEXICO that it honor the late artist Georgia O'Keeffe
6 for sharing her singular perspective of New Mexico with us and
7 the rest of the world; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all New Mexicans and the
9 public appreciate her very real contributions to community
10 life in her adopted village of Abiquiu; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marion family be honored
12 for its vision in establishing the Georgia O'Keeffe museum in
13 Santa Fe as a major international attraction and a highly
14 appropriate living memorial to an artist of genius; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the Georgia O'Keeffe museum and to the Marion
17 family.