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HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024**

INTRODUCED BY

Jenifer Jones and Luis M. Terrazas

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING JANUARY 25, 2024 "HIDALGO COUNTY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg, the village of Virden and Hidalgo county are the southwestern gateway to New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo county borders Arizona and Mexico and was created from the southwest portion of Grant county in 1919; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo county was named for a Mexican patriot and Roman catholic priest, Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a leader of the Mexican war of independence who is known as "the father of the nation" in Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo county was the home of Chiricahua Apache chief Geronimo; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Hidalgo county was designated as a bombing range for pilots in training, and

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1 remains of the bombing can be seen today; and

2 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is known as the "boot heel" of New  
3 Mexico, boasting two ghost towns, a geothermal generating plant  
4 and abundant opportunities for bird watching and hiking; and

5 WHEREAS, the Continental Divide trail begins in Hidalgo  
6 county, with its trailhead at Crazy Cook mountain; and

7 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is rich in minerals, including  
8 copper and gold, and some abandoned mines can be seen today;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico institute of mining and  
11 technology's Playas training and research center is in Hidalgo  
12 county; and

13 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county includes two incorporated  
14 communities, the city of Lordsburg and the village of Virden,  
15 and unincorporated communities Animas, Cotton City, Rodeo,  
16 Playas, Franklin and Windmill; and

17 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county has two public school districts:  
18 the Animas public school district, home of the panthers, and  
19 the Lordsburg municipal school district, home of the mavericks;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Hidalgo county is home to world champion bull  
22 rider Owen Washburn and sports shooter Todd Bensley, who  
23 competed in the 1984 and 1988 Olympic games; and

24 WHEREAS, the city of Lordsburg was incorporated in 1880 on  
25 the route of the southern Pacific railroad; and

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