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HOUSE MEMORIAL 28

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

INTRODUCED BY

John Block and Kathleen Cates and Jonathan A. Henry  
and William A. Hall II and Susan K. Herrera

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 17, 2025 "IRISH-AMERICAN DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, there are approximately thirty-one million five  
hundred thousand Irish Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the story of Irish Americans has always been one  
of strength and perseverance through adversity; and

WHEREAS, many Irish immigrants arrived on America's shores  
to escape the great famine, embraced their new home and helped  
build the nation into what it is today; and

WHEREAS, approximately seven percent of New Mexico  
residents claim Irish heritage; and

WHEREAS, many Irish Americans have made impacts on New  
Mexican culture; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Watts Kearny, born to parents of Irish

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1 descent, used diplomacy rather than arms to defeat Mexican  
2 troops en route to Santa Fe; and

3 WHEREAS, Henry McCarty, also known as "Billy the Kid",  
4 also born to Irish parents, has roots in Lincoln and Chaves  
5 counties and was later buried at Fort Sumner; and

6 WHEREAS, Sister Mary de Sales Deheney, an Irish immigrant  
7 and member of the sisters of charity, was the first woman  
8 licensed as a doctor in the territory of New Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia O'Keeffe, one of the most significant  
10 artists of the twentieth century, whose father was of Irish  
11 descent, was inspired by New Mexico landscape and culture  
12 before making New Mexico her permanent home;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 17, 2025  
15 be declared "Irish-American Day" in the house of  
16 representatives; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this day be a celebration of  
18 all Irish Americans and their contributions to the nation's  
19 culture; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
21 transmitted to the Irish-American society of New Mexico.