A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE MAY 16, 2021 AS "FABIOLA
CABEZA DE BACA GILBERT DAY" IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert led a storied
life as an educator, nutritionist, activist and writer; and
WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert was born on May
16, 1894 in Las Vegas, New Mexico; and
WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert attended a
public school run by New Mexico normal university, in 1906
spent a year studying in Spain and in 1912 earned an
elementary school teaching certificate from New Mexico normal
university; and
WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert earned a
bachelor of arts degree from New Mexico normal university and
a degree in home economics from the New Mexico college of
agricultural and mechanic arts in 1927; and
WHEREAS, May 16, 2021 is her one hundredth anniversary
as a graduate of New Mexico normal university, later known as
New Mexico highlands university; and
WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert married Carlos
Gilbert in 1931; and
WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert is the author of
Historic Cookery: Authentic New Mexican Food, published in
1931, the earliest cookbook of New Mexico foods popularizing
cooking with chile; and

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert revised her cookbook to include menus in 1951; and

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert is noted in several publications and online sites that include New Mexico history, wikipedia and New Mexico women; and

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert is credited as the inventor of the u-shaped fried taco shell; and

WHEREAS, Lois Rudnick published *La Fabulosa Fabiola: First Lady of New Mexico Cuisine* in 2012 and cited Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert's u-shaped fried taco shell invention in the book; and

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert was also featured in a 2012 *El Palacio* magazine article by Lois Rudnick; and

WHEREAS, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert was also featured in Jeffrey Pilcher's book *Planet Taco: A Global History of Mexican Food*; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Pilcher noted that Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert "suggested a novel twist, soon taken up by home cooks and fast-food restaurants, of prefrying the tortillas into the characteristic 'u' shape of a taco shell before adding the filling."; and

WHEREAS, in *Iconic Mexico: An Encyclopedia from Acapulco to Zocalo*, author Eric Zolov also references Fabiola
Cabeza de Baca Gilbert's culinary skills;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to declare May 16, 2021 "Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert Day" in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert be remembered for her service and dedication to the residents of New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the family of Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Gilbert and the president of New Mexico Highlands University.