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**HOUSE MEMORIAL 14**

**45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Don Tripp**

**A MEMORIAL**

**REQUESTING THAT MARCH 16, 2001 BE DECLARED AS "LIBERTY DAY" TO  
MARK THE TWO HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF  
PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON, THE "FATHER OF THE CONSTITUTION".**

**WHEREAS, March 16, 2001 marks the two hundred fiftieth  
anniversary of the birth of our fourth president, James  
Madison, the "Father of the Constitution"; and**

**WHEREAS, the rights and liberties that we Americans enjoy  
are guaranteed by the documents that our founding fathers  
created: the declaration of independence and the United  
States constitution with its bill of rights; and**

**WHEREAS, James Madison's written records of the debates  
in the federal convention of 1787, which were co-written by  
Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, became known as the  
*Federalist Papers* and have endured as some of the best**

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1 arguments for our nation's form of government; and

2 WHEREAS, during his service in the United States house of  
3 representatives from 1789 to 1797, James Madison introduced  
4 the bill of rights to congress; and

5 WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting that the sixteenth day  
6 of March, the birthday of the distinguished founding father,  
7 James Madison, serve as a reminder of "Liberty Day", a  
8 celebration of the declaration of independence and the United  
9 States constitution, where our inalienable rights and  
10 liberties are enumerated; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States congress has passed a  
12 concurrent resolution requesting that "Liberty Day" be  
13 celebrated each year throughout the United States as a  
14 remembrance of both the freedom that Americans are given in  
15 the declaration of independence and the extraordinary rights  
16 and liberties that Americans are given in their constitution;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the lions clubs of New Mexico have printed  
19 booklets containing the declaration of independence and the  
20 United States constitution for distribution to students  
21 throughout the state of New Mexico;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Governor Gary  
24 Johnson be requested to declare March 16, 2001 as "Liberty  
25 Day"; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all members of the house of representatives be urged to give of their time to speak to the people of our state, especially our youth, throughout the year, about these founding documents in furtherance of our freedoms, our rights and our liberties.

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