

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2013, "RIO ARRIBA COUNTY DAY"
3 AT THE LEGISLATURE.

4
5 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is the home of a diverse,
6 traditional community, including the Jicarilla Apache Nation,
7 many unique villages, the city of Española and the pueblos of
8 Ohkay Owingeh and Santa Clara; and

9 WHEREAS, the first European settlement in the United
10 States was established in Rio Arriba county in 1598, inspiring
11 a tradition of cultural struggle and creativity; and

12 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county, often called
13 "Norteños", are a rugged people, descendants of conquistadores
14 and the rebels who struggled against them; of Native
15 Americans, plains peoples, Spaniards, Moors, Jews and escapees
16 from the Spanish inquisition; of farmers, ranchers, artisans
17 and hunters; and of people seeking alternative paths; and

18 WHEREAS, for centuries, the people of Rio Arriba county
19 have struggled against unforgiving soils and harsh weather
20 but, despite this, have managed to produce the best chile and
21 apples in the world; and

22 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county has produced grass banks,
23 holistic nursing, waffle gardens, acequias, hermanos and
24 Guadalupanas, retablos, moradas and la musica Norteña; and

25 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is truly New Mexico's upper

1 river, God's country, the bosom of mother earth, harsh desert
2 and the garden of Eden; and

3 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county have made many
4 innovations in the face of adversity and have had the spirit
5 and courage to rebel when necessary, the common sense to
6 self-govern in days when external support was unavailable and
7 the foresight to carry historical lessons into the present;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is recognized for its
10 agricultural innovations; its contributions to health care;
11 the extraordinary beauty of its landscape and the people who
12 have preserved that beauty; the resilience of its people; the
13 ingenuity of its artists; its midwives and curanderas; its
14 educational achievements through northern New Mexico college;
15 the engineers, artists, musicians, farmers, nurses, doctors
16 and teachers it has produced; its diversity; and its
17 extraordinary sunsets, thunderstorms and snow;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Monday, February 18, 2013, be
20 proclaimed "Rio Arriba County Day" at the legislature; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the county commissioners of Rio Arriba
23 county. _____