

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. GEORGE I. SANCHEZ
3 TO EDUCATION, BOTH IN NEW MEXICO AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AND
4 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM OCTOBER 4, 2013 AS
5 "GEORGE I. SANCHEZ DAY" IN NEW MEXICO.

6
7 WHEREAS, Dr. George I. Sanchez was born in the Barelvas
8 community of Albuquerque on October 4, 1906, the son of an
9 Arizona miner; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez graduated from Central high school,
11 now known as Albuquerque high school, in 1922; and

12 WHEREAS, at age seventeen, Dr. Sanchez began his
13 teaching career at Yrisarri, New Mexico, traveling by
14 horseback thirty-five miles to and from Albuquerque; and

15 WHEREAS, at age nineteen, Dr. Sanchez became principal
16 at Griegos-Candelarias consolidated schools in Bernalillo
17 county, working there for another six years; and

18 WHEREAS, from 1930-1933, Dr. Sanchez attended and later
19 taught at the New Mexico normal school in Las Vegas,
20 New Mexico; and

21 WHEREAS, at age twenty-three, Dr. Sanchez received his
22 bachelor's degree from the university of New Mexico in 1930;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez completed his master's degree in
25 education from the university of Texas at Austin in 1932; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez returned to work in New Mexico
2 after getting his doctorate in philosophy from the university
3 of California, Berkeley in 1934; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez then became a professor at the
5 university of New Mexico, teaching there for about five
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez went on to serve as director for
8 the division of information and statistics in the New Mexico
9 state department of public education for four years; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez was the president of the
11 New Mexico education association for one term; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez in 1940 published a study of
13 twenty-two villages in the Taos area and wrote about the
14 educational neglect in northern New Mexico by federal, state
15 and local authorities in a still-popular book,
16 *Forgotten People: A Study of New Mexicans*; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez wrote many excellent articles in
18 the *New Mexico School Review* and other national journals and
19 publications, advocating for a better education for all
20 children; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez collaborated with many prominent
22 university of New Mexico educators, such as President
23 James Zimmerman; Simon Peter Nanninga, dean of the college of
24 education; Loyd Tireman, education department chair;
25 Professor Joaquin Ortega; Professor Arturo Campa; and many

1 others; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez worked actively with the twelfth
3 legislature of New Mexico on many educational policies; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez was a notable and distinguished
5 scholar, educator, activist, pioneer and visionary in the
6 early days of public education in New Mexico; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez, as a professor of education at
8 the university of Texas at Austin, returned to New Mexico to
9 study the Navajo country and to present papers in many
10 institutions of higher learning; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez continued to contribute to
12 education for all children nationally and internationally
13 through his outstanding work at the university of Texas until
14 his death in 1972; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Sanchez's educational legacy extends
16 beyond the policies he helped to craft, as members of his
17 family continue to pursue careers in education, including his
18 granddaughter, Cindy Kennedy, a Santa Fe teacher; and

19 WHEREAS, there are ten schools in Texas and three in
20 California named after Dr. George I. Sanchez, but none in his
21 home state of New Mexico;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to
24 proclaim October 4, 2013 as "Dr. George I. Sanchez Day" in
25 New Mexico to honor the work and life of Dr. Sanchez; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dr. Sanchez be recognized for the seventeen years of dedicated service he gave to New Mexico, as well as his thirty-two years of service to Texas and the rest of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the family of Dr. Sanchez. _____