

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 29

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 PROCLAIMING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2013, "RIO ARRIBA COUNTY DAY"
12 AT THE LEGISLATURE.

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14 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is the home of a diverse,
15 traditional community, including the Jicarilla Apache Nation,
16 many unique villages, the city of Española and the pueblos of
17 Ohkay Owingeh and Santa Clara; and

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

21 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county, often called
22 "Norteños", are a rugged people, descendants of conquistadores
23 and the rebels who struggled against them; of Native Americans,
24 plains peoples, Spaniards, Moors, Jews and escapees from the
25 Spanish inquisition; of farmers, ranchers, artisans and

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1 hunters; and of people seeking alternative paths; and

2 WHEREAS, for centuries, the people of Rio Arriba county
3 have struggled against unforgiving soils and harsh weather but,
4 despite this, have managed to produce the best chile and apples
5 in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county has produced grass banks,
7 holistic nursing, waffle gardens, acequias, hermanos and
8 Guadalupanas, retablos, moradas and la musica Norteña; and

9 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is truly New Mexico's upper
10 river, God's country, the bosom of mother earth, harsh desert
11 and the garden of Eden; and

12 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county have made many
13 innovations in the face of adversity and have had the spirit
14 and courage to rebel when necessary, the common sense to
15 self-govern in days when external support was unavailable and
16 the foresight to carry historical lessons into the present; and

17 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is recognized for its
18 agricultural innovations; its contributions to health care; the
19 extraordinary beauty of its landscape and the people who have
20 preserved that beauty; the resilience of its people; the
21 ingenuity of its artists; its midwives and curanderas; its
22 educational achievements through northern New Mexico college;
23 the engineers, artists, musicians, farmers, nurses, doctors and
24 teachers it has produced; its diversity; and its extraordinary
25 sunsets, thunderstorms and snow;

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