

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 36

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

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Linda M. Lopez and Ernest H. Chavez

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN
12 ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY AND PROCLAIMING MARCH 5, 2013 TO
13 BE "AMAFCA DAY" AT THE LEGISLATURE.

14
15 WHEREAS, Albuquerque was founded in 1706 as the Spanish
16 colonial outpost of Ranchos de Albuquerque; and

17 WHEREAS, Albuquerque's increasing urbanization and floods
18 in the early 1940s prompted studies of the situation to be
19 undertaken by the United States army corps of engineers; and

20 WHEREAS, House Bill 291 of the twenty-sixth legislature
21 became Laws 1963, Chapter 311, thereby creating the Albuquerque
22 metropolitan arroyo flood control authority, or "AMAFCA", and
23 providing for its organization, governing body and officers;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Governor Jack Campbell appointed the first board

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1 of directors of AMAFCA consisting of Reginald Garcia, Marvin
2 May, Frances McCoy, B.H. Swinburne and W.C. Scrivner, who were
3 sworn in on April 29, 1963; and

4 WHEREAS, since 1999, AMAFCA has been governed by a board
5 of directors elected from five districts, two of which are
6 minority-majority districts based on current census data; and

7 WHEREAS, AMAFCA became the local sponsor for the federal
8 flood control projects known as the north diversion channel and
9 the south diversion channel, which were constructed by the
10 United States army corps of engineers to capture and divert
11 runoff around downtown Albuquerque and portions of the north
12 and south valleys; and

13 WHEREAS, AMAFCA's mission is to acquire, equip, maintain
14 and operate a flood control system for the benefit of the
15 residents within AMAFCA's jurisdictional boundaries; and

16 WHEREAS, AMAFCA has designed and constructed innovative
17 projects with a full and complete understanding of the
18 environmental, social and economic impacts, with a priority to
19 return tax dollars to the taxpayers by providing the greatest
20 benefit to all residents of Albuquerque; and

21 WHEREAS, AMAFCA maintains thirty-seven miles of lined
22 channels, twenty-nine miles of improved channels, ten miles of
23 underground drainage improvements and twenty dams that are
24 subject to the jurisdiction of the office of the state
25 engineer, as well as forty-four nonjurisdictional ponds; and

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1 WHEREAS, AMAFCA's jurisdiction today covers three hundred
2 fifty-three square miles and protects six hundred thirty-seven
3 thousand four hundred forty-three people; and

4 WHEREAS, the flood control system is a hidden treasure
5 that allows for many other compatible uses, including regional
6 parks, golf courses, little league fields, soccer fields,
7 equestrian centers, multi-use trails, open space and a hang
8 glider landing area; and

9 WHEREAS, AMAFCA cooperates with the Albuquerque
10 international balloon fiesta, the largest hot-air balloon event
11 in the world, to utilize AMAFCA facilities for take-offs and
12 landings; and

13 WHEREAS, AMAFCA maintains one hundred eight facilities
14 dedicated to improving storm water quality; and

15 WHEREAS, AMAFCA is a leader in arid southwest water
16 quality, and since 1986 it has helped fund the hydraulics
17 laboratory at the university of New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, AMAFCA has traditionally constructed a nationally
19 recognized tumbleweed snowman each year along interstate 40
20 that is seen by hundreds of thousands of people and is loved by
21 people near and far;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize the extraordinary history
24 of accomplishments and contributions to the quality of life of
25 New Mexico by the Albuquerque metropolitan arroyo flood control

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1 authority over the last fifty years; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that March 5, 2013 be recognized as
3 "AMAFCA Day" at the legislature; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the members of the board of directors of the
6 Albuquerque metropolitan arroyo flood control authority.