

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE JULY 23, 2016 "HISTORIC
3 LOS LUCEROS DAY" IN NEW MEXICO.
4

5 WHEREAS, Los Luceros is a one-hundred-forty-eight-acre
6 property of great historic, cultural and natural value,
7 located in the Espanola valley near Alcalde; and

8 WHEREAS, Los Luceros was purchased by the state to
9 enable the public to have greater access to the property; and

10 WHEREAS, the cultural affairs department, which
11 purchased the Los Luceros property from the family of Frank
12 and Ann Cabot in 2008, is the state's cultural steward and is
13 working to ensure the site's preservation and integrity in
14 perpetuity; and

15 WHEREAS, the state gained ownership of Los Luceros with
16 the aim of providing public access to the historic property,
17 developing a retreat center for workshops, conducting
18 seminars connected to New Mexico's film industry and
19 providing a site for crop testing and environmental studies
20 programs; and

21 WHEREAS, the estate was first owned by Luis Maria Ortiz,
22 a seventh-generation descendant of colonists who arrived with
23 Don Diego de Vargas in 1692, for whom the main house, or casa
24 grande, was constructed; and

25 WHEREAS, the property existed under the jurisdiction of

1 Spanish and Mexican governments for two hundred eighteen
2 years; and

3 WHEREAS, Mary Cabot Wheelwright, the founder of a museum
4 that now bears her name, purchased the property in 1923 and
5 lived there until her death in 1958; and

6 WHEREAS, Mary Cabot Wheelwright's heirs purchased the
7 property and invested in a major renovation of the property;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the structures on the grounds include a casa
10 grande, which at one time was used as the county seat; an old
11 jail; a new visitors' center; a river house; and other
12 buildings of historical significance; and

13 WHEREAS, the grounds also include old orchards, a bosque
14 and irrigated pastures, all of which provide habitat for at
15 least one hundred sixty-two species of both migratory and
16 non-migratory birds, as well as many species of mammals and
17 reptiles; and

18 WHEREAS, Los Luceros has been listed on the national
19 register of historic places since 1983; and

20 WHEREAS, los amigos del rancho Los Luceros, a nonprofit
21 organization, will be hosting an open house to let New
22 Mexicans see and experience this historic northern New Mexico
23 treasure on July 23, 2016;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor

1 be requested to declare July 23, 2016 "Historic Los Luceros
2 Day" in New Mexico; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the governor, the president of New Mexico
5 state university and the chair of los amigos del rancho Los
6 Luceros.

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