

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING JANUARY 28, 2016 "LAS VEGAS DAY" IN THE SENATE AND
3 RECOGNIZING THE YOUTH OF LAS VEGAS AND SAN MIGUEL COUNTY.

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5 WHEREAS, Las Vegas was founded in 1835 as a Spanish land
6 grant called Nuestra Senora de los Dolores de Las Vegas
7 Grandes; and

8 WHEREAS, the Spanish settlers who founded the community
9 had roots going back to the seventeenth century; and

10 WHEREAS, the Acequia Madre in Las Vegas stands as a
11 testament to one hundred fifty years of resourcefulness and
12 ingenuity; and

13 WHEREAS, Las Vegas was a key rest stop, resupply point
14 and protector of the Santa Fe trail, serving as a lifeline
15 between the growing West and the eastern parts of the
16 United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Pablo Herrera, territorial state
18 representative, led las gorras blancas, or the white caps, to
19 retain the land grants; and

20 WHEREAS, the first Hispanic political party in the
21 United States, el partido de pueblo unido, or the united
22 people's party, was formed in San Miguel county; and

23 WHEREAS, historical characters such as Doc Holliday,
24 Billy the Kid, Wyatt Earp and Jesse James were attracted to
25 the area; and

1 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county have more than
2 nine hundred buildings on the national register of historic
3 places; and

4 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county are signature
5 places of charm and wonder in the "Land of Enchantment", a
6 spectacular tourist destination, with fine historic hotels,
7 authentic New Mexico character and easy access to other local
8 historic sites and outdoor recreation; and

9 WHEREAS, aside from its historic and tourist
10 attractions, Las Vegas is home to many critical state
11 institutions; and

12 WHEREAS, one of these is the New Mexico behavioral
13 health institute at Las Vegas, the only state-owned and
14 state-operated psychiatric hospital, which provides critical
15 medical services to the state, including long-term nursing
16 care for the elderly and disabled; and

17 WHEREAS, Las Vegas is also home to five major
18 educational institutions: New Mexico highlands university,
19 Luna community college, United world college, Las Vegas city
20 public school district and west Las Vegas public school
21 district; and

22 WHEREAS, these educational institutions are gems of the
23 city and crucibles of learning, teaching and discovery, not
24 just for northern New Mexico, but for the entire state and
25 the globe; and

1 WHEREAS, the media arts center at Luna community college
2 is affirmation that the film industry is strongly supported
3 in northern New Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, the media arts center at Luna community college
5 capitalizes on the creativity of Las Vegas and San Miguel
6 county youth; and

7 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county recognize that
8 young people are the community's most precious resource and
9 greatest asset; and

10 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will endeavor
11 to listen and to learn from the voice of youth; and

12 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will champion
13 that every child be validated, supported and respected; and

14 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will endeavor
15 to provide activities for area youth; and

16 WHEREAS, 2016 will be recognized as the year of youth in
17 Las Vegas and San Miguel county;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the distinguished history and
20 heritage of Las Vegas and San Miguel county be recognized and
21 that January 28, 2016 be declared "Las Vegas Day" in the
22 senate; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that support be expressed for the
24 film industry and its efforts to promote the people and
25 attractions of and to create jobs in northern New Mexico; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the mayor of Las Vegas, the members of the city council of Las Vegas and the board of county commissioners of San Miguel county. _____