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HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018**

INTRODUCED BY

George Dodge, Jr. And Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 1, 2018 "NEW MEXICO RURAL ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's rural distribution, generation and  
transmission cooperatives provide electric power to eighty  
percent of the land area of New Mexico and to twenty-two  
percent of New Mexicans, while more than forty-two million  
people across the country are members of one thousand electric  
cooperatives in forty-seven states; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives employ  
more than nine hundred New Mexicans and provide over sixty-two  
million dollars (\$62,000,000) in annual payroll, which  
contributes greatly to the economy of rural New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
invested over one billion three hundred million dollars

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1 (\$1,300,000,000) in electric plants and more than forty-six  
2 thousand miles of distribution lines, serving an average of  
3 four and six-tenths customers per mile; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
5 provided over eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000) in higher  
6 educational scholarships to more than eight thousand New Mexico  
7 students over the past twenty years; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
9 active, engaged and leaders in their communities; and

10 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives  
11 participate in the national government-in-action youth tour by  
12 sending students from New Mexico to Washington, D.C., to see  
13 how government works and learn about the importance of electric  
14 cooperatives; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
16 leaders in renewable energy, projecting to meet their renewable  
17 portfolio standard requirement levels of five percent by 2020,  
18 while providing more than twenty-five percent of their energy  
19 from solar, wind and hydroelectric power; and

20 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
21 utilizing new technologies that help to ensure affordable and  
22 reliable electricity, including broadband service to  
23 underserved areas in their service territories, thereby helping  
24 to connect rural New Mexico and stimulate economic development;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

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1 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 1,  
2 2018 be declared "New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Day" in  
3 the house of representatives; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that rural electric cooperatives be  
5 acknowledged for their immeasurable contributions, economic  
6 impact and commitment to rural electrification in New Mexico;  
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
9 transmitted to the governor and the executive vice president  
10 and general manager of the New Mexico rural electric  
11 cooperative association.