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HOUSE MEMORIAL 14

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Harry Garcia and Christine Trujillo and Eliseo Lee Alcon and  
Rodolopho "Rudy" S. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 31, 2019 "NEW MEXICO RURAL ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's eighteen 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 deliver  
and sustain quality-of-life energy and are leaders in energy  
conservation programs, including electric vehicle charging  
efforts; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
leaders in renewable energy, already exceeding the 2020

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1 renewable portfolio standard requirement levels by ten percent,  
2 while providing more than thirty percent of their energy from  
3 solar, wind and hydroelectric power; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives employ  
5 more than eight hundred fifty New Mexicans and provide over  
6 sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000) in annual payroll, and are  
7 a cornerstone of the economy of rural New Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
9 invested over one billion three hundred million dollars  
10 (\$1,300,000,000) in electric plants and more than forty-six  
11 thousand miles of distribution lines, serving an average of  
12 four and five-tenths customers per mile; and

13 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives have  
14 provided over twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) in higher  
15 educational scholarships to more than eight thousand nine  
16 hundred New Mexico students over the past thirty years; and

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

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives provide  
20 educational scholarships and participate in the national  
21 government-in-action youth tour by sending students from New  
22 Mexico to Washington, D.C., to see how government works and  
23 learn about the importance of electric cooperatives; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico rural electric cooperatives are  
25 utilizing new technologies that help to ensure affordable and

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1 reliable electricity, including broadband service to  
2 underserved areas in their service territories, thereby helping  
3 to connect rural New Mexico and stimulate economic development;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 31,  
6 2019 be declared "New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Day" in  
7 the house of representatives; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that rural electric cooperatives be  
9 acknowledged for their immeasurable contributions, economic  
10 impact and commitment to rural electrification in New Mexico;  
11 and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the governor and the chief executive officer and  
14 president of the New Mexico rural electric cooperative  
15 association.