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SENATE MEMORIAL 52

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Jacob R. Candelaria

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE JUNE 14-19, 2020 "NATIONAL
SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENT DAYS" IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, on June 14-19, 2020, Albuquerque will host the
world's largest academic competition for high school and middle
school students, the national speech and debate tournament; and

WHEREAS, the middle school national tournament will run
concurrently with the high school tournament and will take
place on June 16-19, 2020, also in Albuquerque; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the tournament, Albuquerque
will host the first-ever national Spanish language speech and
debate competition; and

WHEREAS, the tournament draws competitors from forty-eight
states, five countries and two United States territories, with
an estimated eleven-million-dollar (\$11,000,000) impact to the

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1 local economy; and

2 WHEREAS, ten thousand students, coaches and volunteers
3 will visit Albuquerque during the tournament; and

4 WHEREAS, the debates will be hosted by local schools, and
5 the final events will be held at the Albuquerque convention
6 center; and

7 WHEREAS, the mission of the national speech and debate
8 association is to connect, support and inspire a diverse
9 community committed to empowering students through competitive
10 speech and debate; and

11 WHEREAS, to participate in the national speech and debate
12 tournament, high school students must qualify at one of the
13 association's district tournaments or through one of eight
14 international qualifying programs; and

15 WHEREAS, at the middle school tournament, students have
16 the chance to compete, build their skills, meet other students
17 from across the country, and, as it overlaps with the high
18 school tournament, learn from watching the final high school
19 rounds; and

20 WHEREAS, the tournament is being hosted by the Albuquerque
21 public school district, the city of Albuquerque and the local
22 New Mexico speech and debate community;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
24 OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to declare June
25 14-19, 2020 "National Speech and Debate Tournament Days" in New

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1 Mexico; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the executive director of the national speech
4 and debate association.

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