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SENATE MEMORIAL 46

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Cliff R. Pirtle

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE ONE-HUNDRED-FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MESCALERO APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION.

WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation was
established by President Ulysses S. Grant on May 27, 1883, by
executive order; and

WHEREAS, the original boundaries of the Mescalero Apache
Indian reservation spanned as far north as Fort Stanton, and
the current reservation is more than seven hundred nineteen
square miles, or four hundred sixty-three thousand acres; and

WHEREAS, sierra blanca, or white mountain, sacred to the
Apache people, is located partially on the Mescalero Apache
Indian reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe represents the
Mescalero, Lipan and Chiricahua Apache bands of Apache; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache people have called the lands
2 of New Mexico their home since time immemorial; and

3 WHEREAS, the Lipan Apache were forced from their homelands
4 in Texas and northern Mexico and held as prisoners of war until
5 1905 when they joined the Mescalero Apache on the Mescalero
6 Apache Indian reservation; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1913, the Chiricahua Apache were released as
8 prisoners of war from the Fort Sill military reservation near
9 Lawton, Oklahoma, and the vast majority of the Chiricahua
10 Apache chose to make their homes on the Mescalero Apache Indian
11 reservation where they were welcomed wholeheartedly by the
12 Mescalero Apache; and

13 WHEREAS, since the establishment of the Mescalero Apache
14 Indian reservation, the Mescalero Apache Tribe has been at the
15 forefront of the fight for tribal sovereignty at the state and
16 national levels and to preserve its culture, language and
17 connection to its homelands throughout southern New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation is
19 mountainous and heavily wooded, and the Mescalero Apache Tribe
20 is well-known for its sustainable forestry management, public
21 campgrounds and big game hunting program; and

22 WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe is proud to share the
23 natural beauty of the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation with
24 guests and patrons from New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and many
25 other places at the tribe's resort and casino, the inn of the

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1 mountain gods; and

2 WHEREAS, the Mescalero Apache Tribe is proud to call the
3 Mescalero Apache Indian reservation its home;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
5 OF NEW MEXICO that the one-hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the
6 establishment of the Mescalero Apache Indian reservation be
7 recognized and celebrated by the senate and throughout New
8 Mexico; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the Mescalero Apache tribal government tribal
11 council.