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SENATE MEMORIAL 21

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

RECOMMENDING THAT NEW MEXICO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE "CHILE VERDE ROCK" SONG AS THE OFFICIAL NEW MEXICO CHILE SONG.

WHEREAS, the legislature has recognized, in addition to "O, Fair New Mexico", certain songs that musically capture the beauty, culture and character of this state; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has adopted a Spanish-language state song, a state bilingual song, a state ballad and a state cowboy song; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico does not have an official song about chile, a recognized official vegetable of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, as one of the most delicious vegetables known to humankind, chile deserves recognition; and

WHEREAS, Uvaldo Olonia, a native of Taos, New Mexico, has composed a musical tribute to chile that is worthy of bringing

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1 to this humble vegetable the accolades it deserves; and

2 WHEREAS, a tribute in the form of a rock and roll song is
3 a fitting way to recognize this spicy vegetable; and

4 WHEREAS, the words of "Chile Verde Rock", written by
5 Uvaldo Olonia, are as follows:

6 "(first verse)

7 It comes down from Hatch and grown in Chimayo
8 Spread'n like a fever all across New Mexico
9 A national food treasure; the green chile crop
10 In New Mexico we love our green chile hot

11 (chorus)

12 The chile verde rock, roasted in a drum
13 Red chile ristras, drying in the sun
14 Red or green? Christmas ... mild or hot
15 Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock

16 (second verse)

17 It comes from Socorro and grown in Rodeo
18 They cook it up in Gallup in a pot real slow
19 Carnitas, papitas, chicharrones in the pot
20 Matanzas in Belen we love our chiles hot

21 (chorus)

22 The chile verde rock, roasted in a drum
23 Red chile ristras, drying in the sun
24 Red or green? Christmas ... mild or hot
25 Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock

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(third verse)

Down in Albuquerque where the chile grows
Up to Santa Fe where the red chile flows
Hot like a fire running wild in the woods
From Taos to Tucumcari, it taste so good

(chorus)

The chile verde rock, roasted in a drum
Red chile ristras, drying in the sun
Red or green? Christmas ... mild or hot
Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock

(fourth verse)

When you want some famous New Mexico cuisine
Take a ride to Tia Ginny's and you'll taste what I

mean

A New Mexico tradition, art and soul
Green chile crop a big Hispanic role

(chorus)

The chile verde rock, roasted in a drum
Red chile ristras, drying in the sun
Red or green? Christmas ... mild or hot
Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock
Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock
Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock
Do'n a little thing called the chile verde rock."

and

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1 WHEREAS, the adoption of a state symbol is accomplished by
2 an act of the legislature;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
4 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
5 requested to assign the appropriate interim legislative
6 committee to study recommendations for the adoption of "Chile
7 Verde Rock" as the official New Mexico chile song; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate state agencies
9 be encouraged to promote "Chile Verde Rock" as the official New
10 Mexico chile song; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of state, the
13 secretary of tourism and the secretary of cultural affairs and
14 to other appropriate state agencies.

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