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HOUSE MEMORIAL 21

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
Miguel P. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING SUPPORT TO THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU FOR
PURPOSES OF HAVING A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COUNT OF ALL NEW
MEXICO RESIDENTS FOR THE UPCOMING CENSUS 2000.

WHEREAS, a decennial census of every residence is
required under Article 1, Section 2 of the United States
constitution; and

WHEREAS, an accurate census is essential for the
allocation of representation within the legislative bodies of
the United States house of representatives, the New Mexico
state legislature and within New Mexico county and voting
districts; and

WHEREAS, billions of dollars each year in
intergovernmental funding for health, education,
transportation, child and elder care, emergency preparation
and response, public works and social support programs of all

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1 kinds depend on complete and accurate age, population and
2 other ethnic and demographic information gathered every ten
3 years; and

4 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico was undercounted in
5 1990 by more than forty-eight thousand persons resulting in
6 the loss of nearly eighty million dollars (\$80,000,000) to
7 the state; and

8 WHEREAS, all units of government, large and small
9 corporations, nonprofit organizations, religious
10 organizations and local businesses of all sizes require
11 accurate information on population and family size and income
12 data for investments, job development and marketing guidance
13 to determine the impact of educational, health and social
14 programs; and

15 WHEREAS, individual and family information is held
16 completely confidential by strong federal laws supported by
17 consistent court rulings at all levels and is never released
18 except in large statistical totals or to family members after
19 seventy-two years for genealogical purposes; and

20 WHEREAS, census 2000 in New Mexico is being carried out
21 under the able leadership of Fernando E. C de Baca in
22 Albuquerque, Arlene Roybal in Las Cruces and Francisco
23 Apodaca in Santa Fe, distinguished native New Mexicans;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that endorsement
and support be extended to the United States census bureau as
it conducts a complete and accurate count of all New Mexico

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residents as of April 1, 2000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that citizens of New Mexico be encouraged to enthusiastically support census 2000 and assist the United States census bureau in every way possible, and return the census questionnaires promptly and accurately so that census 2000 can be the most accurate and most efficiently conducted resident count ever conducted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico leadership of census 2000 for appropriate distribution.