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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Richard C. Martinez

A JOINT MEMORIAL

ACKNOWLEDGING THE NAME CHANGE OF THE PUEBLO FORMERLY KNOWN AS
THE PUEBLO OF SAN JUAN AND NOW TO BE KNOWN AS OHKAY OWINGEH.

WHEREAS, the tribal entity formerly known as the Pueblo
of San Juan is located north of Espanola; and

WHEREAS, the name "San Juan de los Caballeros" was
bestowed upon the pueblo in 1598 by Don Juan de Onate in honor
of his patron saint John the Baptist; and

WHEREAS, the people living in the area formerly known as
the Pueblo of San Juan have traditionally called their
ancestral home Ohkay Owingeh or "place of the strong people"
in the Tewa language; and

WHEREAS, the pueblo members and the tribal council have
concurred and endorsed officially changing the pueblo's name
to Ohkay Owingeh in recognition of the long history of the

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1 Indian pueblo prior to the arrival of Spanish colonists and
2 missionaries in the sixteenth century; and

3 WHEREAS, the support of the legislature of New Mexico is
4 requested in acknowledging the name change of the pueblo of
5 San Juan to Ohkay Owingeh;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the name change of the Pueblo of San
8 Juan to Ohkay Owingeh and the effort of Governor Joe Garcia in
9 working to restore the true tribal name to the community be
10 acknowledged; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state change highway and
12 road signs, maps and any other public documents printed by the
13 state to reflect the name Ohkay Owingeh; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States department
15 of the interior be requested to acknowledge the name change of
16 the pueblo of San Juan to Ohkay Owingeh; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the governor of Ohkay Owingeh, the secretary of
19 the interior and the New Mexico secretary of transportation.