

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO BECOME AN
ADVOCATE FOR THE DEDICATION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "NORTH
GOLF COURSE" AS PERMANENT UNIVERSITY URBAN GREEN SPACE.

WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico received the land
for the north golf course for one dollar (\$1.00); and

WHEREAS, the labor to construct the north golf course
was provided without cost by the works progress administration
and includes a historic structure designed by noted university
architect John Gaw Meem; and

WHEREAS, all of the trees on the north golf course were
given by neighbors who allowed them to be dug out of their
yards and transplanted to the golf course; and

WHEREAS, former university of New Mexico President
Thomas Popejoy envisioned the north golf course as a place of
recreation for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the north golf course is the largest green
space in the center of Albuquerque, which also serves the city
by reducing the urban heat island effect; and

WHEREAS, the trees protect the campus and surrounding
area from the pollutants vehicles emit on the state's two
largest interstates; and

WHEREAS, the trees are significant contributors toward
the city of Albuquerque's urban forest improvement initiative;

and

WHEREAS, the north golf course is a refuge for wildlife such as hawks, coyotes, roadrunners, rabbits and over a hundred other desert creatures; and

WHEREAS, the north golf course provides further drainage of storm water, which protects part of the city from flooding; and

WHEREAS, the north golf course is a revenue-generating part of the university of New Mexico's athletics program; and

WHEREAS, rates of obesity, heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses caused by sedentary behaviors are increasing at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, the north golf course provides a perimeter trail of two miles open to walkers and joggers; and

WHEREAS, encouraging healthy lifestyles and exercise is an inexpensive way to improve the health of Albuquerque residents; and

WHEREAS, the north golf course contributes to a walkable community and connectivity between the university, businesses and surrounding neighborhoods;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university of New Mexico be requested to undertake action to permanently set aside the property commonly known as the "north golf course" for continued beneficial use as noted above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be sent to each member of the board of regents of the university of New Mexico, the president of the university of New Mexico, the mayor of Albuquerque, each member of the Albuquerque city council and the governor.