

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/4/09

SPONSOR Beffort LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE "Mary Ann Vaughn Day" SM 50

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 50 commemorates the life of Mary Ann Vaughn and declares April 17, 2009 to be "Mary Ann Vaughn Day."

The memorial cites her distinguished ancestry, and the many remarkable events in the life of Mary Ann Vaughn. Her biography includes her early struggle to emigrate to the United States and her ultimately successful quest to locate her family of origin in the United States. Highlights from the memorial include the following.

Mary Ann Vaughn was born in Yokohama, Japan, on April 17, 1949, and she was the only daughter of James A. Vaughn of New Mexico and Vivienne Joy Wilson.

Vivienne Wilson and Mary Ann Vaughn were not permitted to immigrate to the United States due to Vivienne's Swedish and Mary Ann's Japanese ancestry. James Vaughn appealed to Senator Patrick McCarren of Nevada to introduce private legislation in the United States congress to allow the immigration of Vivienne and Mary Ann.

On August 5, 1950, congress passed a private bill permitting Vivienne Wilson and Mary Ann Vaughn to immigrate to the United States. On the very day her immigration rights were secured, Vivienne Wilson died in Tokyo, Japan, of tuberculosis.

Senate Memorial 50 – Page 2

As an infant, Mary Ann, was kidnapped by her nanny and held incommunicado in the slums of Yokohama, Japan, and was raised there. The family of Vivienne Wilson discovered Mary Ann's whereabouts and sought her custody and extradition to Sweden, their country of residence.

The case of Lagerfelt v. Yamaguchi was brought on Mary Ann's behalf in the name of the king of Sweden in the Tokyo high court in 1956, and upon prevailing in the lawsuit, Mary Ann remained in the custody of the Swedish ambassador to Japan and attended the American school in Japan, graduating in the 1960.

Mary Ann's New Mexico grandparents, Osmar Andrew and Hester Ruby Vaughn of Questa, sought tirelessly to locate her, but to no avail, while Mary Ann Vaughn, now known as Mrs. Marianne Kuroda, also sought tirelessly to locate her family of origin in the United States.

Finally, after fifty-four years, Mrs. Kuroda located her family of origin from an obituary of her father in the Albuquerque Journal; and Mrs. Kuroda has finally been reunited with her New Mexico family and roots, and the New Mexico and Tokyo branches of the Vaughn family have now grown together.

The memorial further directs that copies be transmitted to Mrs. Marianne Wilson Kuroda (Mary Ann Vaughn) of Kashiwa, Japan, and Mr. Akira Honda, the honorable mayor of Kashiwa, Japan.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Senate Memorial 50 makes no appropriations.

CH/mt:mc