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SENATE MEMORIAL 31

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Gerald Ortiz y Pino

A MEMORIAL

ENCOURAGING STATE, LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW MEXICO'S 2012 STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION BY CREATING AND PROMOTING PROJECTS DESIGNED TO HONOR, COMMEMORATE AND CELEBRATE THE HISTORY, TRADITIONS AND FUTURE OF THE STATE WHILE FACILITATING EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND CIVIC PRIDE.

WHEREAS, after being inhabited for nearly three hundred years, New Mexico joined the United States as a territory in 1850; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico strived for the next sixty years to become a state; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 1912, New Mexico joined the United States as the forty-seventh state in the union; and

WHEREAS, the cultural affairs department, in collaboration  
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1 with both public and private entities, has led coordination of  
2 commemoration activities since 2009; and

3 WHEREAS, all New Mexico communities are invited to  
4 participate in this unique opportunity, with commemorative  
5 activities beginning August 28, 2011 and continuing through  
6 December 2012; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico has many diverse and rich cultural  
8 traditions that go back more than a thousand years for Native  
9 Americans, more than four hundred years for European Americans,  
10 more than one hundred fifty years for African Americans and  
11 more than one hundred years for Asian Americans; and

12 WHEREAS, New Mexico has an historical heritage unmatched  
13 by any other state in the union; and

14 WHEREAS, trails and roads of national and international  
15 importance have crossed through or ended in New Mexico, such as  
16 El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, the Santa Fe trail, the  
17 Butterfield overland stage trail, the Goodnight Loving trail,  
18 the second transcontinental railroad in the 1880s and route 66,  
19 linking cultures and communities from east to west and north to  
20 south for several hundred years; and

21 WHEREAS, New Mexico has a long and distinctive history of  
22 sending its residents to fight in the nation's conflicts,  
23 including the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I,  
24 World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War and  
25 the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

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1           WHEREAS, New Mexico is a leader in the nation's scientific  
2 endeavors, beginning with Robert Goddard's rocket experiments  
3 in the 1930s and the world's first atomic explosion in 1945 and  
4 continuing with the achievements of the Sandia and Los Alamos  
5 national laboratories; and

6           WHEREAS, New Mexico has been a national pacesetter in  
7 artistic expression since the late nineteenth century;

8           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
9 OF NEW MEXICO that all state, tribal and local government  
10 agencies be encouraged to participate in New Mexico's 2012  
11 statehood centennial commemoration by creating and promoting  
12 projects designed to honor, commemorate and celebrate the  
13 history, traditions and future of the state while facilitating  
14 education, economic development, tourism and civic pride; and

15           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the office of the governor, the administrative  
17 office of the courts, the New Mexico legislative council, the  
18 New Mexico association of counties, the New Mexico municipal  
19 league and the governors and tribal councils of New Mexico's  
20 Indian nations, tribes and pueblos.