

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2013, "RIO ARRIBA COUNTY
3 DAY" AT THE LEGISLATURE.

4
5 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is the home of a diverse,
6 traditional community, including the Jicarilla Apache Nation,
7 many unique villages, the city of Española and the pueblos of
8 Ohkay Owingeh and Santa Clara; and

9 WHEREAS, the first European settlement in the United
10 States was established in Rio Arriba county in 1598,
11 inspiring a tradition of cultural struggle and creativity;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county, often called
14 "Norteños", are a rugged people, descendants of
15 conquistadores and the rebels who struggled against them; of
16 Native Americans, plains peoples, Spaniards, Moors, Jews and
17 escapees from the Spanish inquisition; of farmers, ranchers,
18 artisans and hunters; and of people seeking alternative
19 paths; and

20 WHEREAS, for centuries, the people of Rio Arriba county
21 have struggled against unforgiving soils and harsh weather
22 but, despite this, have managed to produce the best chile and
23 apples in the world; and

24 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county has produced grass banks,
25 holistic nursing, waffle gardens, acequias, hermanos and

1 Guadalupanas, retablos, moradas and la musica Norteña; and

2 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is truly New Mexico's upper
3 river, God's country, the bosom of mother earth, harsh desert
4 and the garden of Eden; and

5 WHEREAS, the people of Rio Arriba county have made many
6 innovations in the face of adversity and have had the spirit
7 and courage to rebel when necessary, the common sense to
8 self-govern in days when external support was unavailable and
9 the foresight to carry historical lessons into the present;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Rio Arriba county is recognized for its
12 agricultural innovations; its contributions to health care;
13 the extraordinary beauty of its landscape and the people who
14 have preserved that beauty; the resilience of its people; the
15 ingenuity of its artists; its midwives and curanderas; its
16 educational achievements through northern New Mexico college;
17 the engineers, artists, musicians, farmers, nurses, doctors
18 and teachers it has produced; its diversity; and its
19 extraordinary sunsets, thunderstorms and snow;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Monday, February 18, 2013, be
22 proclaimed "Rio Arriba County Day" at the legislature; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the county commissioners of Rio Arriba
25 county.