

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 6, 2015 "INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, the area in the city of Albuquerque centered around Louisiana between Central and Zuni, comprising the communities of La Mesa, Trumbull, South San Pedro, Elder Homestead, Fair West and surrounding areas is known as the international district; and

WHEREAS, the residents living in that community come from various countries of origin and have diverse ethnic, racial and national backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, businesses in and around this area cater to a clientele from around the world; and

WHEREAS, the area is commonly recognized as the most internationally and culturally diverse in New Mexico, is a vibrant part of Albuquerque and has a rich history of technological advancement; and

WHEREAS, Henry Edwards Roberts and three Kirtland air force base colleagues founded Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems located in what is now Albuquerque's international district; and

WHEREAS, the men built the first microcomputer prototype, the Altair 8800, in October 1974, making the international district home to the first personal computers;

and

WHEREAS, Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems hired Paul Allen and Bill Gates to write a beginner's all-purpose symbolic instruction code, more commonly referred to as BASIC, for that first personal computer; and

WHEREAS, Paul Allen and Bill Gates then formed their own company, Microsoft, and their original office still stands in the international district; and

WHEREAS, the international district will continue its historical tradition of embracing technological advancement by hosting a public charter school for technology leadership that is scheduled to open in the fall of 2015; and

WHEREAS, efforts to create a positive awareness of the international district's past, present and future history and diversity are supported by local county, city and state elected officials;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 6, 2015 be declared "International District Day" in the house of representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to members of the media in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, to the principal of the leadership technology charter school and to city and county officials representing the area.