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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 10, 2016 "NEW MEXICO RESTAURANT DAY" IN
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a vibrant, world-class food and
beverage scene; and

WHEREAS, whether diners are looking for a dining
experience that is worthy of a James Beard award or for a
dining experience at an authentic dive off the beaten path,
New Mexico delivers; and

WHEREAS, restaurants are a driving economic force in New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, according to statistics from the New
Mexico restaurant association, restaurants accounted for
eighty-seven thousand jobs in New Mexico and eleven percent
of employment in the state; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, there were three thousand three
hundred seventeen eating and drinking establishments in New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, three billion three hundred million
dollars (\$3,300,000,000) was spent in New Mexico restaurants;
and

WHEREAS, restaurants in New Mexico are projected to
employ ninety-six thousand seven hundred people by 2025,
which is an eleven and one-tenths percent increase over 2015

1 figures; and

2 WHEREAS, half of all adult New Mexicans have worked in
3 the restaurant industry at some point during their lives, and
4 one out of three New Mexicans got their first job in a
5 restaurant; and

6 WHEREAS, restaurants employ more minority managers than
7 any other industry; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico restaurateurs are rightfully proud
9 to hold records for the world's largest flat enchilada and
10 the world's largest green chile cheeseburger; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico's restaurants showcase and feature
12 many New Mexican food and beverage products, from green chile
13 to pinon nuts to pecan beer and green chile vodka, allowing
14 New Mexico restaurants to introduce visitors to the pleasures
15 of New Mexico's unique offerings; and

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico's restaurants support many and
17 various student educational opportunities, from the high
18 school "ProStart" program to culinary training programs at
19 community colleges to college-level culinary and management
20 programs at the state's universities; and

21 WHEREAS, the New Mexico restaurant association sponsored
22 the first-ever New Mexico house of representatives versus
23 senate chile cook-off during the 2015 legislative session;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, each year, the New Mexico hospitality awards

1 celebrate the efforts of restaurateurs, chefs, managers and
2 employees who give back to their communities; and

3 WHEREAS, the question most often asked in New Mexico
4 restaurants, "red or green?", is also the official state
5 question, and "Christmas" is served all year long;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 10,
8 2016 be declared "New Mexico Restaurant Day" in the house of
9 representatives; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
11 transmitted to the chief executive officer of the New Mexico
12 restaurant association.

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