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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 10, 2016 "NEW MEXICO RESTAURANT DAY" IN  
THE SENATE.

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 SENATE OF THE  
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 10, 2016 be declared  
8 "New Mexico Restaurant Day" in the senate; and

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

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