

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 8, 2016 AS "FILM DAY" IN THE SENATE.

3  
4 WHEREAS, New Mexico has been a film-set magnet since  
5 movies began, with its magnificent and unbeatable vistas,  
6 magical sunrises and sunsets; its usually benign, though  
7 dramatic, weather; its Indian pueblos and old Hispanic  
8 communities; and its major large modern city; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico has been filmed as itself, as other  
10 states and as other countries, including Montana, Texas,  
11 Afghanistan and Indonesia, as other planets and even as the  
12 inside of earth itself, with the 1959 *Journey to the Center*  
13 *of the Earth* and several other movies filmed in Carlsbad  
14 Caverns; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1898, Thomas Alva Edison produced the first  
16 film in New Mexico, and one of the first ever in the American  
17 west, called *Indian Day School*, a black-and-white silent  
18 documentary filmed at the Pueblo of Isleta; and

19 WHEREAS, in the early 1900s, New Mexico was the filming  
20 site of many movies, particularly those by Mack Sennett and  
21 Romaine Fielding; and between 1908 and 1915, fifty-six movies  
22 were filmed in New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, while there were films made in the state in the  
24 1930s, such as *Billy the Kid*, filmed in Gallup, it was not  
25 until the 1940s and 1950s that New Mexico really became a

1 star again, with the rise of westerns like *The Sea of Grass*,  
2 *Pursued* and *Only the Valiant* and classics like *The Grapes of*  
3 *Wrath*; and

4 WHEREAS, who can forget the 1969 film *Easy Rider*, the  
5 movie that defined the hippie generation, or *The Milagro*  
6 *Beanfield War*, the still-relevant story of the battle for  
7 water in northern New Mexico between traditional villagers  
8 and developers; and

9 WHEREAS, a number of movie blockbusters have been filmed  
10 in New Mexico, including *Young Guns*, *The Avengers*,  
11 *Armageddon*, *No Country for Old Men* and *Terminator 2*; and

12 WHEREAS, film production has reached every corner of the  
13 state, from the filming of *Transformers* on location in the  
14 dunes of White Sands national monument and *Contact* at the  
15 very large array, to *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* in  
16 Chama and *Sicario* in Albuquerque; and

17 WHEREAS, while the New Mexico landscape has been  
18 showcased in the film industry for more than a century and  
19 includes more than six hundred productions, in more recent  
20 years television production in the state has also boomed; and

21 WHEREAS, *In Plain Sight*, a dramatic television series  
22 developed around the professional and personal lives of the  
23 marshals of the federal witness protection program, filmed  
24 five seasons on location in Albuquerque; and

25 WHEREAS, scenes for *Longmire*, a critically acclaimed

1 modern crime drama that follows the story of a Wyoming  
2 sheriff, were filmed in Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Eagle Nest and  
3 Red River; and

4 WHEREAS, the hit television series *Breaking Bad* brought  
5 renewed attention to New Mexico, exciting tourists to travel  
6 here from around the world specifically to catch a glimpse of  
7 the characters' houses, the iconic carwash and other show  
8 landmarks; and

9 WHEREAS, the great audience following and success of  
10 *Breaking Bad* led to the filming of the spinoff series *Better*  
11 *Call Saul* in Albuquerque as well; and

12 WHEREAS, the direct film and television industry has  
13 been a lucrative employer in New Mexico, and the industry has  
14 spurred film tourism; and

15 WHEREAS, the film industry injected nearly two hundred  
16 ninety million dollars (\$290,000,000) into New Mexico's  
17 economy last year; and

18 WHEREAS, the New Mexico film office reported a record  
19 seventy-seven productions in the past fiscal year that ended  
20 June 30, and in 2015, New Mexico hosted twenty-five major  
21 productions in principal photography; and

22 WHEREAS, a New Mexico film production tax incentive  
23 study reported that in fiscal years 2010 through 2014 the  
24 industry supported between two thousand five hundred and four  
25 thousand jobs for state residents; and

1           WHEREAS, direct jobs created by the film and television  
2 industry included positions for key creative teams,  
3 performing artists, production offices, camera departments,  
4 technical trade workers and post-production and other support  
5 services; and

6           WHEREAS, filming movies and television shows in  
7 New Mexico provides high-paying, creative jobs in the state's  
8 communities; and

9           WHEREAS, film and television production in New Mexico  
10 provides the state's local talent of actors, models,  
11 designers and other artists with unique opportunities to  
12 develop their craft in major productions, opportunities to  
13 which they may not have access in Hollywood; and

14           WHEREAS, many local businesses benefit as well from the  
15 patronage of film crews at restaurants and catering  
16 companies, hotels, travel agencies, building supply companies  
17 and local stores where props and wardrobe are purchased; and

18           WHEREAS, film and television production in New Mexico  
19 boosts residents' morale, fostering excitement and pride in  
20 seeing our state or hometown on the silver screen;

21           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
22 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 8, 2016 be declared "Film  
23 Day" in the senate in recognition of the contributions that  
24 film and television productions in New Mexico provide to the  
25 economic and social landscape; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the governor's council on film and media industries.

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