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HOUSE MEMORIAL 19

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Kelly K. Fajardo and Alonzo Baldonado

A MEMORIAL

COMMEMORATING FEBRUARY 10, 2017 AS "VALENCIA COUNTY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, Valencia county is part of the Rio Abajo; and

WHEREAS, Valencia county is the home of the largest matanza in the United States, and the matanza is a symbol of the rich Spanish heritage of the Rio Grande valley; and

WHEREAS, Valencia county is the home of the famous Tome land grant, which the king of Spain granted to thirty families in 1739; and

WHEREAS, the village of Los Lunas was founded by Spaniards in the seventeenth century; and

WHEREAS, Belen is officially known as "Nuestra Señora de Belen", or "Our Lady of Belen"; and

WHEREAS, Belen means "Bethlehem" in Spanish; and

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1 WHEREAS, Belen was a strategic point along the Camino
2 Real, also known as the "Royal Road", which carved a trade
3 route south into Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, Belen has gained the nickname "hub city" because
5 of the Belen cutoff of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe
6 railway, now known as the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railway;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Bosque Farms was a destination for relocated dust
9 bowl refugees; and

10 WHEREAS, Bosque Farms strives to be a sparsely populated,
11 agricultural community; and

12 WHEREAS, Peralta was the site of a minor engagement during
13 the American civil war; and

14 WHEREAS, Rio Communities is home to Valencia county's only
15 golf course, Tierra del Sol; and

16 WHEREAS, Valencia county is home to decalogue stone, which
17 contains an inscription that is interpreted to be an abridged
18 version of the ten commandments in a form of the Paleo-Hebrew
19 alphabet; and

20 WHEREAS, Valencia county houses two museums, the Belen
21 Harvey house museum and the Los Lunas museum of heritage and
22 arts; and

23 WHEREAS, Valencia county is home to parts of the Cibola
24 national forest and the Manzano wilderness; and

25 WHEREAS, Valencia county is renowned for its agriculture;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, Valencia county hosts the United States' largest
3 matanza, a family fun event that raises funds to provide
4 scholarships to students while preserving Valencia county
5 traditions by promoting and enhancing local business
6 development through civic, social, cultural and employment
7 training programs;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 10,
10 2017 be commemorated as "Valencia County Day" in the house of
11 representatives; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the mayors of Belen, Los Lunas, Bosque Farms,
14 Peralta and Rio Communities.