

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 8, 2019 "UNM WORLD LANGUAGE EXPO DAY" IN THE
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE CELEBRATION OF TWENTY YEARS
4 OF DIVERSITY OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES.

5
6 WHEREAS, language impacts the daily life of everyone and
7 helps people express feelings and desires and to interact
8 with others; and

9 WHEREAS, spoken language allows humans to harness an
10 innate ability to form lasting bonds with others and
11 separates humanity from the rest of the animal kingdom; and

12 WHEREAS, the ability to communicate in multiple
13 languages is becoming more and more important in an
14 increasingly integrated global community; and

15 WHEREAS, learning another language correlates with
16 higher academic achievement on standardized test measures as
17 well as an increased ability to hypothesize, creatively solve
18 problems and think critically; and

19 WHEREAS, learning another language fosters appreciation
20 and communication across cultures, a necessity in a globally
21 connected environment; and

22 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico's foreign
23 languages and literatures department celebrates the diversity
24 of world languages and cultures by hosting the university of
25 New Mexico's world language expo on March 2, 2019 on the

1 university of New Mexico's main campus; and

2 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico's world language
3 expo is celebrating twenty years of breaking down the walls
4 that separate languages and cultures by bringing together New
5 Mexico high school and university students, teachers,
6 professors and community members from all over the world to
7 honor bilingualism; and

8 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico's world language
9 expo has celebrated more than forty languages and cultures,
10 including Spanish, Portuguese, French, German, Italian,
11 Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Arabic, Latin, ancient Greek,
12 Swahili, African tribal languages, Farsi, Romanian,
13 Hungarian, American sign language, K'iche', Hindi, Welsh and
14 Dine; and

15 WHEREAS, hundreds of students learn about tai chi, the
16 Chinese dragon dance, how to participate in a Japanese tea
17 ceremony and Arabic dabkeh dancing; and

18 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico's world language
19 expo also features trivia and poster competitions, chalk art
20 and poetry competitions;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 8, 2019
23 be declared "UNM World Language Expo Day" in the house of
24 representatives and that twenty years of diversity of world
25 languages and cultures be celebrated; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico language teachers
2 be recognized for inspiring their students to become informed
3 global citizens and to appreciate their roles in the world;
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the chair of the university of New Mexico
7 department of foreign languages and literatures and the
8 president of the university of New Mexico. _____

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