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HOUSE MEMORIAL 47

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

Antonio Maestas and Georgene Louis

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE GATHERING OF NATIONS LIMITED AND THE SIGNIFICANCE IN PROMOTING INTERTRIBAL SHARING OF NATIVE CULTURES OF ALL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND TRIBES IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

WHEREAS, the gathering of nations limited, a nonprofit organization, was established in New Mexico in 1983 to engage in, carry on and promote Native American educational, religious and cultural activities and other programs in the state; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the gathering of nations limited is to provide honorariums and limited scholarships to be used for Native American people on a nondiscriminatory basis; and

WHEREAS, the gathering of nations limited specifically endeavors to promote intertribal sharing of native cultures of all indigenous people and tribes of the United States, Canada

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1 and the western hemisphere through native singing, dancing and  
2 all other aspects of culture and religion; and

3 WHEREAS, the gathering of nations limited has established  
4 a cultural pageant for young Native American women and, each  
5 year, a young Native American woman is crowned as miss Indian  
6 world; and

7 WHEREAS, miss Indian world serves as an outreach  
8 ambassador of native culture, as she represents Native American  
9 women while bridging cultural gaps and bringing understanding  
10 of Indian people and traditions to the world at large; and

11 WHEREAS, the gathering of nations limited is dedicated to  
12 the promotion of native people performing, expressing and  
13 practicing contemporary music, literature, the spoken word and  
14 performance by providing contemporary performance spaces at the  
15 gathering of nations pow wow; and

16 WHEREAS, the annual gathering of nations pow wow is the  
17 primary annual effort of the gathering of nations limited, as  
18 this event attracts the largest number of native people for  
19 competitive and social song and dance in North America, which  
20 benefits not only the Native American people, but also serves  
21 as educational enrichment for all people of all races and  
22 religions; and

23 WHEREAS, the gathering of nations limited annually  
24 delivers a significant economic impact and financial benefit to  
25 New Mexico of more than twenty-four million dollars

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1 (\$24,000,000), with an additional economic impact to Native  
2 American communities in New Mexico; and

3 WHEREAS, the state legislature commends the efforts and  
4 goals of the gathering of nations limited and the gathering of  
5 nations pow wow for continuing to provide this major cultural  
6 and social event, as well as being one of the greatest and most  
7 colorful spectator attractions in New Mexico, the United States  
8 and the world; and

9 WHEREAS, the state legislature is dedicated to the support  
10 and continued growth and development of this wonderful and  
11 legendary event known as the gathering of nations pow wow; and

12 WHEREAS, the next gathering of nations pow wow will be  
13 held April 24 and 25, 2020, on the pow wow grounds at expo New  
14 Mexico in Albuquerque;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the cultural  
17 significance of the gathering of nations limited be  
18 acknowledged and honored; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature encourage all  
20 residents and visitors in New Mexico to attend the miss Indian  
21 world cultural pageant on April 23, 2020 in the Kiva auditorium  
22 at the Albuquerque convention center and the gathering of  
23 nations pow wow on April 24 and 25, 2020 on the pow wow grounds  
24 at expo New Mexico in Albuquerque; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that residents and businesses of

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1 Albuquerque be encouraged to support and attend all events  
2 associated with the gathering of nations limited; and  
3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 transmitted to the Albuquerque office of the gathering of  
5 nations limited, the governor, the secretary of cultural  
6 affairs, the secretary of tourism and the secretary of economic  
7 development.

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