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HOUSE MEMORIAL 51

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

INTRODUCED BY

Tomás E. Salazar

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 13, 2020 "NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has been an important educational, cultural, social and economic asset in New Mexico, particularly northern New Mexico, since 1893; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university serves nearly four thousand students each year and has nearly five hundred fifty employees at the school's main campus and centers; and

WHEREAS, the vision of New Mexico highlands university is to be a premier university, transforming lives and communities now and for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the core values of New Mexico highlands university are excellence, diversity, accessibility and responsiveness; and

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1 WHEREAS, the priorities of New Mexico highlands university
2 are academic excellence, academic integration and student
3 success; strategic enrollment management; vibrant campus and
4 university life; community partnerships; technological
5 advancement and innovation; and enhanced communication and
6 efficiency across the university; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university effectively
8 serves students across the state and beyond its borders, online
9 and on its campuses and centers in Las Vegas, Santa Fe,
10 Farmington, Rio Rancho, Albuquerque and Roswell; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university educates many
12 first-generation students, transforming their lives and the
13 lives of their families and future generations; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has many active
15 alumni, representing every state and many countries, guided by
16 a vibrant alumni association board of directors; and

17 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has welcomed its
18 first cohort of master of fine arts students in media arts and
19 technology, has instituted a new alternative teacher
20 certification program designed to fast track teacher licensure
21 and has initiated a professional development school, the school
22 of education, which collaborates with the Los Alamos national
23 laboratory and Pojoaque Valley school district; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has recently had
25 a banner year in athletics with its men's basketball team

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1 winning the Rocky Mountain athletic conference championship,
2 Annie Topal of the highlands track and field team winning the
3 national collegiate athletic association division II national
4 championship in the triple jump while maintaining a 4.0 grade
5 point average, and the Vatos rugby club winning its third
6 national championship in the national small college rugby
7 organization sevens championship; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university launched its
9 Mariachi Vaqueros de Highlands musical ensemble, initiated an
10 e-sports program and saw continued improvement in student life,
11 with highly successful events on campus, along with numerous
12 theater and music events and high usage of the student outdoor
13 recreation center; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university is a Hispanic-
15 serving institution, with more than fifty percent enrolled
16 Hispanic students, and strives to be a Native American-serving
17 institution, with nearly nine percent enrolled Native American
18 students; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university welcomes students
20 from northern New Mexico, all of New Mexico, the United States
21 and the world;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 13,
24 2020 be declared "New Mexico Highlands University Day" in the
25 house of representatives; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico highlands
2 university be commended for its service and dedication to the
3 residents of New Mexico; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the president of New Mexico highlands
6 university.

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