

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER
3 2023 AS "LABOR HISTORY MONTH".

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5 WHEREAS, New Mexico's culture is influenced by
6 historical labor movements that developed out of a need to
7 protect the collective needs of workers; and

8 WHEREAS, historical labor movements have been part of
9 important advances in gender and racial equality; and

10 WHEREAS, labor unions have been instrumental in
11 improving working conditions and pay as well as addressing
12 social and community needs, including access to healthy food,
13 sanitation and education; and

14 WHEREAS, organized labor in New Mexico grew in the 1880s
15 as railroad workers formed the knights of labor and teachers
16 formed the territorial education association, now known as
17 the national education association of New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, New Mexico's workforce represents industry in
19 the public sector, transportation, utilities, construction,
20 information and manufacturing; and

21 WHEREAS, according to the bureau of labor statistics of
22 the United States department of labor, in 2021, nine and
23 one-tenth percent of New Mexico's population was represented
24 by unions; and

25 WHEREAS, New Mexico ranked thirtieth among all states

1 for the share of the workforce represented by unions; and

2 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the significance
3 of the history of labor;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor
6 be requested to designate the month of September 2023 as
7 "Labor History Month" in New Mexico; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the importance of
9 understanding the history of labor be recognized; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that school districts be
11 encouraged to commemorate the month with appropriate
12 educational exercises that make students aware of the role of
13 the labor movement in New Mexico and the United States; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public education
15 department consider the study of labor history, from the
16 Spanish colonial period to the present day, in educational
17 curriculum selection; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of public
20 education. _____

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