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HOUSE MEMORIAL 76

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

John Block and Mark Duncan and Alan T. Martinez and
Stefani Lord and Jimmy G. Mason

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 1, 2023 "IRISH-AMERICAN DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, there are approximately thirty-one million five
hundred thousand Irish Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the story of Irish Americans has always been one
of strength and perseverance through adversity; and

WHEREAS, many Irish immigrants arrived on America's shores
to escape the great famine, embraced their new home and helped
build the nation into what it is today; and

WHEREAS, approximately seven percent of New Mexico
residents claim Irish heritage; and

WHEREAS, many Irish Americans have made impacts on New
Mexican culture; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Watts Kearney, born to parents of Irish

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1 descent, used diplomacy rather than arms to defeat Mexican
2 troops en route to Santa Fe; and

3 WHEREAS, Henry McCarty, also known as "Billy the Kid",
4 also born to Irish parents, has roots in Lincoln and Chaves
5 counties and was later buried at Fort Sumner; and

6 WHEREAS, Sister Catherine Mellon moved to Santa Fe to act
7 as a nurse for Irish troops and founded St. Vincent hospital
8 and orphanage and St. Elizabeth shelter for the homeless, both
9 still in service today; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia O'Keeffe, the "mother of American
11 modernism", was known for her landscapes of New Mexico;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 1, 2023
14 be declared "Irish-American Day" in the house of
15 representatives; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this day be a celebration of
17 all Irish Americans and their contributions to the nation's
18 culture; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the Irish-American society of New Mexico.