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SENATE MEMORIAL 61

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

INTRODUCED BY

Brenda G. McKenna and Bill B. O'Neill and William E. Sharer

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 8, 2023 "ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement has been reached, and while there are still some outstanding issues, the agreement has been a considerable success; and

WHEREAS, there are people on the island of Ireland today who benefited from the continuous bipartisan support for the Good Friday Agreement over the last twenty-five years of state legislators, successive United States presidents, the United States senate, the United States house of representatives and elected officials working in partnership with the government of the United Kingdom and the government of Ireland; and

WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement is honored on this year

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1 of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its ratification as the  
2 framework for lasting peace in Northern Ireland; and

3 WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement represented a landmark  
4 breakthrough that provided Ireland with a political framework  
5 to address its future; and

6 WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement acknowledged the right  
7 of differing political traditions to pursue their goals of  
8 remaining part of the United Kingdom or of Irish unity; and

9 WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement demonstrated democratic  
10 and peaceful means of resolving differences, recognizing the  
11 British and Irish governments' ongoing support and  
12 implementation of the Good Friday Agreement; and

13 WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement is the irrevocable  
14 foundation of the peace process regardless of the United  
15 Kingdom's status regarding the European Union; and

16 WHEREAS, despite the historic progress of the Good Friday  
17 Agreement and subsequent agreements, important issues remain  
18 unresolved in Northern Ireland, including securing justice for  
19 victims of state-sponsored violence and other violence and  
20 providing for the rights of all sections of the community; and

21 WHEREAS, members of both political parties in the United  
22 States came together to support the Good Friday Agreement; and

23 WHEREAS, on the seventeenth of March during the annual  
24 celebration of the feast of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of  
25 Ireland, Irish Americans join with men, women and children of

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1 all ethnic origins and for one day become Irish and celebrate  
2 Saint Patrick; and

3 WHEREAS, this year, there is also celebration and thanks  
4 for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
6 OF NEW MEXICO that March 8, 2023 be declared "St. Patrick's Day  
7 and the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement  
8 Day" in the senate; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the flag of Ireland be  
10 recognized as a symbol of the link between the United States  
11 and Ireland and be celebrated as a symbol of peace; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the chair of the American Irish state  
14 legislators caucus.