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HOUSE MEMORIAL 19

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING JANUARY 24, 2024 THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL "GRANT COUNTY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, Grant county is known for its mining, ranching and art communities; blend of Hispanic, Native American and Anglo cultures; blue skies with three hundred sixty days of sunshine per year; vast mountain landscapes; and small-town atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, Grant county is the gateway to the vast Gila wilderness; and

WHEREAS, Grant county's largest city and county seat, Silver City, is the only municipality in New Mexico still operating under the territorial charter issued by the legislative assembly of the territory of New Mexico in 1878; and

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1 WHEREAS, Grant county is the richest county for mining in
2 New Mexico, producing numerous precious metals, including
3 copper, an essential element of green energy and electric
4 vehicles, which is mined from the third-largest open-pit copper
5 mine in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, Grant county is home to western New Mexico
7 university, established in 1893 as New Mexico's only applied
8 liberal arts and sciences university; and

9 WHEREAS, western New Mexico university leads the state in
10 designing education and training programs specific to the
11 evolving needs of a globalized economy, and as one of the
12 original Hispanic-serving institutions in the United States,
13 western New Mexico university is the southwest's hub of
14 Hispanic traditions, languages and music, while providing life-
15 changing education and training opportunities to Hispanic
16 students from across the globe; and

17 WHEREAS, Grant county is known for its true west history
18 that includes prehistoric Native Americans; the Chiricahua
19 Apache, including Geronimo and Victorio, two famous Apache
20 leaders; and iconic wild west figures such as Billy the Kid,
21 lawman Dan Tucker and Madam Millie; and

22 WHEREAS, Grant county is where, in 1866, company B of the
23 one hundred twenty-fifth United States colored infantry
24 regiment, known as the buffalo soldiers, was established at
25 Fort Bayard; and

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1 WHEREAS, Grant county is honored as the home of many
2 veterans, and Grant county shares New Mexico's heavy burden of
3 the members of New Mexico's two hundredth coast artillery
4 regiment, many of whom were subjected to the Bataan death
5 march, including the late Representative Thomas Foy; and

6 WHEREAS, Grant county straddles the Continental Divide
7 national scenic trail at six thousand to seven thousand feet,
8 providing cool summers, as well as uninterrupted views of the
9 Mexican border to the south; and

10 WHEREAS, Grant county hosts the annual tour of the Gila,
11 New Mexico's premier cycling stage race, which attracts
12 national and international teams and boosts awareness and use
13 of the trail of the Mountain Spirits national scenic byway; and

14 WHEREAS, Grant county is home to significant outdoor
15 recreation areas, including the Catwalk recreation area, City
16 of Rocks state park, the trail of the Mountain Spirits national
17 scenic byway, Bear canyon reservoir and lake Roberts; and

18 WHEREAS, Grant county has many well-known festivals,
19 including the blues festival, clay festival, tamal fiesta y
20 mas, festival of the written word and Southwest print fiesta;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, New Mexico's current lieutenant governor, Howie
23 Morales, is from Grant county;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 24,

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1 2024 be proclaimed the forty-eighth annual "Grant County Day"
2 in the house of representatives; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to members of the board of county commissioners of
5 Grant county.