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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 36

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

SHERYL M WILLIAMS

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

WHEREAS, although African-Americans make up only a small
percentage of the population of New Mexico, they have,
nevertheless, contributed to the fortunes of the state far
beyond their numbers; and

WHEREAS, from the very beginning when Estevanico the Moor
journeyed with Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca across pre-colonial
New Mexico bringing tales of the seven cities of gold to the
Spanish viceroy; and

WHEREAS, the tenth cavalry--the "buffalo soldiers"--was
composed almost entirely of African-American troops who were
instrumental in bringing civil order to the Southwest; and

WHEREAS, many of the cowboys who came west with the cattle

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1 herds were black--among them Bose Ikard, Charles Goodnight's
2 most trusted friend; and

3 WHEREAS, one violin-playing black cowboy, George McJunkin,
4 foreman of the Crowfoot ranch, self-educated and curious about
5 antiquity, revolutionized our understanding of the human
6 settlement of North America by discovering "Folsom man" in a dry
7 arroyo in northeastern New Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, African-American New Mexicans continue to
9 distinguish themselves and our state in the arts, sciences and
10 public services; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico has established formal offices and
12 agencies to recognize and serve the interests of other, larger
13 ethnic groups;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the office of cultural affairs be
16 requested to study the potential creation of an office of
17 African-American affairs and report its findings to the
18 appropriate interim committee, directed by the New Mexico
19 legislative council to take that testimony by December 1, 1996;
20 and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the office of cultural affairs, the co-chairmen
23 of the New Mexico legislative council and the director of the
24 legislative council service.

**State of New Mexico
House of Representatives**

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 1, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 36

has had it under consideration and finds same to be
GERMANE in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Perea Casey,

Chairperson

Adopted _____

Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

1

2

Date _____

3

4 The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

5 Yes: 10

6 Excused: Lujan, Olguin, Rodella, R. G. Sanchez, S. M Williams

7 Absent: None

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9 HJ036RC1

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State of New Mexico House of Representatives

FORTY- SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION, 1996

February 6, 1996

Mr. Speaker:

Your GOVERNMENT AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to
whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 36

has had it under consideration and reports same with
recommendation that it DO PASS.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda M. Lovejoy, Chairwoman

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1996

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk) (Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 7 For 0 Against

Yes: 7

Excused: Gentry, Perls, Roberts, Sanchez, R. R.

Absent: None

HJ036GU1

Underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~