

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 68

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

NICK L. SALAZAR

A JOINT MEMORIAL

HONORING THE CAMINO REAL AND THE FOUR HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE FIRST PERMANENT SPANISH SETTLEMENT IN NEW MEXICO;
ACKNOWLEDGING THE YEAR OF THE CUARTOCENTENARIO AND SUPPORTING
THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE THAT ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, four hundred years ago, non-Indian settlers,
most of whom were Spanish, traveled El Camino Real led by Don
Juan Onate to a point where several rivers converged in what
is now the Espanola Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Espanola Valley was home to many well
established communities of indigenous people whose descendants
now live in the pueblos of San Juan, Santa Clara, San
Ildefonso and other nearby pueblos; and

WHEREAS, the first permanent non-Indian settlement in
what is now called New Mexico was San Gabriel del Yunque

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1 Yunque, a community near the union of several rivers,
2 including the Rio Grande, the Rio Chama, the Rio Santa Cruz
3 and the Rio del Oso; and

4 WHEREAS, many families of northern New Mexico can trace
5 their ancestry back to those first settlers who brought to New
6 Mexico domestic animals such as sheep, cattle, horses and oxen
7 and cultivated plants such as grapes and garbanzos; and

8 WHEREAS, the indigenous foods of the area were shared
9 with the settlers and the combined foods created the cuisine
10 that is uniquely New Mexican; and

11 WHEREAS, El Camino Real extended from Zacatecas, Mexico
12 all the way to San Gabriel del Yunque Yunque, but today's
13 designation of El Camino Real terminates in Santa Fe, a
14 community that was not settled until twelve years after the
15 permanent settlement of San Gabriel del Yunque Yunque, an
16 historic inaccuracy that must be corrected; and

17 WHEREAS, San Gabriel del Yunque Yunque is located in the
18 pueblo of San Juan, near present day Espanola, New Mexico, a
19 closeness that allowed the Spanish and the indigenous people
20 to learn from one another and, in time, to develop a mutual
21 understanding of each other's cultures; and

22 WHEREAS, the first Spanish capital in what was to become
23 New Mexico was established at San Gabriel del Yunque Yunque,
24 also known as San Juan de los Caballeros, in July 1598, which
25 predates the English settlement of Jamestown in 1607 by nine

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1 years and the landing of the British at Plymouth Rock in 1620
2 by twenty-two years; and

3 WHEREAS, approximately thirty-five percent of the
4 population of New Mexico are descendants of the settlers that
5 Don Juan Onate brought along El Camino Real; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico has an enriched legacy of Hispanic
7 influence in politics, government, business and culture due to
8 these early settlers; and

9 WHEREAS, there are now three predominant cultures
10 represented in New Mexico and our histories are all indelibly
11 interwoven to create the culture that is now New Mexican, but
12 the contributions of each culture should be recognized and
13 honored separately; and

14 WHEREAS, the Cuartocentenario is an opportunity to
15 recognize, honor and celebrate the Hispanic culture in New
16 Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Mexico state government has funded an
18 Hispanic cultural center in Albuquerque, with assistance from
19 the federal government, local governments and private
20 contributions, to celebrate and preserve Hispanic culture,
21 including literature, history, performing arts, visual arts,
22 music, culinary arts and language arts; and

23 WHEREAS, the archbishop of Santa Fe is planning events
24 throughout 1998 in New Mexico, including the opening of a
25 jubilee year, an encuentro at the pueblo of Santo Domingo to

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1 mark the meeting of the missionaries with the pueblo peoples,
2 an archdiocesan reconciliation service at the Santuario de
3 Chimayo and an archdiocesan celebration of St. Francis of
4 Assisi in Santa Fe; and

5 WHEREAS, in order to commemorate Onate's arrival and the
6 arrival of the first non-Indian settlers, the city of Espanola
7 will have a fiesta in July of 1998, the city of Santa Fe is
8 planning several special events and the statewide committee is
9 planning a parade, an historical costume ball and a pageant in
10 Albuquerque; and

11 WHEREAS, many other religious, educational and social
12 events are being planned around the state to commemorate the
13 four hundredth anniversary of the first permanent Spanish
14 settlement in New Mexico;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to
17 designate 1998 as the "Cuartocentenario" to commemorate the
18 four hundredth anniversary of the first Spanish settlement in
19 New Mexico by issuing a proclamation declaring 1998 to be the
20 year of the Cuatocentenario and calling for the people of New
21 Mexico to observe the year with appropriate ceremonies,
22 activities and programs to honor and celebrate the
23 contributions of Hispanic people to the cultural and economic
24 life of New Mexico; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all activities in New Mexico

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1 that honor El Camino Real do so by recognizing and
2 acknowledging that El Camino Real extends to San Gabriel del
3 Yunque Yunque located in the Espanola Valley and that all
4 should realize that the journey taken by Oñate and his group
5 of settlers ended in San Gabriel del Yunque Yunque near the
6 Rio Grande River in the pueblo of San Juan; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature recognize the
8 cultural and economic importance of the first Spanish
9 settlements throughout the southwestern United States; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature express its
11 support for the work of the Espanola plaza foundation, the
12 Santa Fe and Albuquerque Cuatrocenenario committees, the
13 archdiocese of Santa Fe, the New Mexico Hispanic cultural
14 center board of directors, the Hispanic culture foundation
15 board of trustees, as well as other interested groups that are
16 preparing Cuatrocenenario activities to commemorate the four
17 hundredth anniversary; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature express its
19 support for the events to be held in New Mexico in observance
20 of the Cuatrocenenario; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature call upon the
22 citizens of New Mexico to support, promote and participate in
23 the many Cuatrocenenario activities planned to commemorate
24 this historic four hundredth anniversary of the first
25 permanent Spanish settlement in the land now called New

1 Mexico; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the governor of the state, the governors of the
4 pueblos of San Juan, Santa Clara and San Idelfonso, the mayor
5 of Espanola, the Espanola plaza foundation, the Santa Fe and
6 Albuquerque Cuartocentenario committees, the archdiocese of
7 Santa Fe, the New Mexico Hispanic cultural center board of
8 directors and the Hispanic culture foundation board of
9 trustees.

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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6 February 14, 1998

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8 Mr. Speaker:

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10 Your CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, to
11 whom has been referred

12
13 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 68

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

17 Respectfully submitted,

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22 Gary K. King, Chairman
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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

3 Page 8

4 Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

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6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

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8 Date _____

9
10 The roll call vote was 8 For 0 Against

11 Yes: 8

12 Excused: Pederson, Sandel

13 Absent: None

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SECOND SESSION, 1998

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FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION, 1998

February 18, 1998

Mr. President:

Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 68

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Howes, Chairman

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SECOND SESSION, 1998

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Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

Yes: 5

No: 0

Excused: Aragon, Gorham, Rodarte

Absent: None

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