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HOUSE MEMORIAL 13

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

INTRODUCED BY

JAMES G. TAYLOR

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING RECOGNITION OF THE TREMENDOUS POSITIVE IMPACT THE
FILM INDUSTRY HAS HAD ON NEW MEXICO FOR THE LAST ONE HUNDRED
YEARS.

WHEREAS, the year 1998 marks the one hundredth year since
the first known motion picture was filmed in New Mexico, the
Edison company's *Indian Day School* (1898); and

WHEREAS, the years 1912-1930 brought pioneers in the film
industry to New Mexico, especially Albuquerque, Las Vegas and
Silver City; pioneers such as D. W. Griffith, Romaine Fielding,
Mack Sennett, Mary Pickford, Tom Mix, Robert Flaherty and King
Vidor; and

WHEREAS, in the decades of the forties, fifties and early
sixties the western became a popular film genre with many
films made in the Gallup area; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 1968 the New Mexico film commission was
2 established under the administration of Governor David Cargo,
3 one of the first state funded agencies of this kind in the
4 nation created to promote location filming outside of
5 Hollywood; and

6 WHEREAS, in the thirty-year history of the film
7 commission, currently known as the New Mexico film division, a
8 branch of the economic development department, many
9 distinguished filmmakers have come to New Mexico including:
10 Robert Redford, Lawrence Kasdan, John Carpenter, Sidney Lumet,
11 Billy Wilder and Elia Kazan; and

12 WHEREAS, the current year brings a total number of three
13 hundred feature films (for theatrical release), television
14 movies and series and many hundreds of commercials, music
15 videos, documentaries and other media projects filmed in New
16 Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, the film industry has provided tremendous
18 benefits to the economy of the entire state, developing a
19 highly skilled labor pool, a talent (acting) pool and a
20 business infrastructure that have created roughly one billion
21 dollars (\$1,000,000,000) in economic impact in New Mexico over
22 the past decade alone;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it applaud the
25 efforts of the New Mexico film division of the economic

1 development department, recognize the tremendous positive
2 impact the film industry has had on the state's economy and
3 celebrate the significant role the state has played in its
4 100-year history of filmmaking; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial shall
6 be transmitted to the New Mexico film division of the economic
7 development department.

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