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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 15

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

INTRODUCED BY

BEN D. ALTAMIRANO

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH TO DECLARE THE APPROPRIATE DAY AS WHOOPING CRANE DAY.

WHEREAS, the tall, stately whooping crane, *Grus americana*, with its immaculate white feathers, standing five feet high with a wingspan of seven and one-half feet, is the largest bird in North America, and there are few whooping cranes alive in the wild, including the few at the bosque del Apache; and

WHEREAS, whooping cranes are well known as an endangered species, so their presence in New Mexico will help promote tourism to New Mexico, and New Mexico families like to go to the bosque to see these beautiful birds; and

WHEREAS, Kent Clegg, an Idaho rancher, wildlife biologist and pilot, and his crew, Errol Spaulding, Scott MacBush, Peter

Underscored material = new
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1 Clegg, Tom Stehn and James D. Lewis, by ultra-light plane,
2 recently led a band of four whooping cranes and eight sandhill
3 cranes on an eight hundred mile journey from Idaho to the
4 Bosque del Apache national wildlife refuge in New Mexico; and

5 WHEREAS, the people who made this historic journey are
6 concerned about the plight of endangered whooping cranes and
7 are working to establish a new flock of the birds in the
8 southwestern United States; and

9 WHEREAS, the Wild Friends want to educate young people
10 and adults about the need to respect and save endangered
11 species like the whooping cranes; and

12 WHEREAS, the people of New Mexico want to properly thank
13 a great man for setting a good example of ranchers and
14 conservationists working together to help mother nature; and

15 WHEREAS, the people of New Mexico admire Mr. Clegg's
16 kindness, courage and determination, and he and his crew
17 should be recognized for their noble effort to save our
18 nation's wildlife; and

19 WHEREAS, the actions of Mr. Clegg and his crew may
20 inspire others to follow in Mr. Clegg's footsteps to work to
21 save more endangered species;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Kent Clegg and his crew members,
24 Errol Spaulding, Scott MacBush, Peter Clegg, Tom Stehn and
25 James D. Lewis be commended and recognized for their historic

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1 effort to bring rare whooping cranes to the Bosque del Apache
2 national wildlife refuge in New Mexico; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor, with the
4 assistance of the department of game and fish, be requested to
5 declare the appropriate day as whooping crane day; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the governor and to the director of the
8 department of game and fish.

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

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6 February 4, 1998

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8 Mr. President:

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10 Your CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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12 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 15

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

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18 Respectfully submitted,

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23 _____
24 Michael S. Sanchez, Chairman
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Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 10 For 0 Against

Yes: 10

No: None

Excused: None

Absent: None

SJ015C01

Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete