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SENATE MEMORIAL 23

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

INTRODUCED BY

MARY JANE M. GARCIA

A MEMORIAL

COMMEMORATING THE FOUR-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST
GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE ALL INDIAN
PUEBLO COUNCIL AND NONINDIAN GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, today the all Indian pueblo council is comprised
of the pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna,
Nambe, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, San Juan,
Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque,
Zia and Zuni; and

WHEREAS, oral histories teach us that the all Indian
pueblo council existed as long ago as six hundred years before
Spanish explorers made contact with the ancestors of present-
day pueblo people; and

WHEREAS, recorded history first records the convening of
the council on July 7, 1598 when the Spaniard Juan de Onate

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1 met with thirty-eight pueblo leaders of the many pueblos that
2 comprised the all Indian pueblo council at Khe-wa, later
3 referred to as the pueblo of Santo Domingo, to request
4 permission of the leaders of the pueblo nations to settle in
5 their territories; and

6 WHEREAS, the modern-day operations of the all Indian
7 pueblo council were set in motion on November 5, 1922 at the
8 pueblo of Santo Domingo when the council was organized in a
9 manner recognized by nonpuebloans, with a mission statement
10 for the council and an elected chairman became the official
11 spokesman of the pueblos; and

12 WHEREAS, the all Indian pueblo council was at one time
13 outlawed and declared unauthorized by the Indian service, now
14 known as the federal bureau of Indian affairs, and repeated
15 attempts have been made throughout the history of that council
16 to undermine its strength and importance; and

17 WHEREAS, the sovereign members of the all Indian pueblo
18 council have continuously recommitted themselves with
19 devotion, throughout the history of that council, to interact
20 with one another in a harmonious manner, to encourage and
21 support one another in times of need and to go forth on common
22 issues in a unified manner and to pursue a policy of
23 continuing government-to-government communications with the
24 state and other nonIndian governments; and

25 WHEREAS, the nineteen pueblo sovereigns further clarified

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1 the authority of the all Indian pueblo council on October 16,
2 1965 when their governors unanimously approved the all Indian
3 pueblo council constitution; and

4 WHEREAS, because the pueblo people have followed the
5 spiritual and traditional teachings of their ancestors, they
6 have survived a multitude of governmental policies designed to
7 destroy their traditional religions, lifestyles and
8 governments; and

9 WHEREAS, the unification policy and actions of the all
10 Indian pueblo council have also been instrumental in the
11 protection and preservation of pueblo lives, traditions and
12 cultures; and

13 WHEREAS, the all Indian pueblo council is a traditional
14 Indian organization whose heart and soul has been given life
15 by the pueblo peoples' ancestors through their spiritual
16 processes; and

17 WHEREAS, July 7, 1998 marks the four-hundredth
18 anniversary of the all Indian pueblo council since it first
19 appeared in the journals of those who accompanied Don Juan de
20 Onate and his group of nonIndian settlers and the four-
21 hundredth anniversary of the first government-to-government
22 communications between pueblo leaders and nonIndian government
23 representatives; and

24 WHEREAS, the celebration and official commemoration of
25 this four-hundredth anniversary is an important moment in the

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1 history of the pueblo nations, the state of New Mexico, the
2 United States of America and the world; and

3 WHEREAS, commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary
4 of the first government-to-government meeting of the leaders
5 of the pueblos and leaders of the nonIndian settlers seeking a
6 home in New Mexico should include an assessment of how
7 government-to-government interactions can be made more
8 effective and should establish a process that can be used to
9 ease tensions and resolve issues that arise between the pueblo
10 sovereigns and the state; and

11 WHEREAS, the statement of policies and procedures adopted
12 on July 8, 1996, was a good beginning to reassessment of the
13 manner in which government-to-government discussions should
14 proceed, it is clear that many state agencies and some
15 legislators would be more comfortable if the process to
16 implement the policies were more clearly defined; and

17 WHEREAS, the history of the all Indian pueblo council in
18 promoting and pursuing government-to-government interactions
19 with nonIndian government representatives indicates the
20 perseverance of the all Indian pueblo council as it has sought
21 throughout the last four hundred years to maintain and improve
22 government-to-government interactions between the pueblos and
23 the state and the all Indian pueblo council encourages
24 development of a process that the state and tribes of New
25 Mexico can implement to ensure improved and effective

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1 government-to-government communications in the future;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
3 OF NEW MEXICO that the all Indian pueblo council be recognized
4 and honored on the four-hundredth anniversary of the first
5 government-to-government meeting between the leaders of
6 twenty-six pueblo nations and Don Juan de Onate and his group
7 of settlers; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate acknowledge and
9 honor the consortium of pueblo governments that existed at
10 least two hundred years prior to the pueblos' first contacts
11 with Europeans; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate encourage and
13 support the efforts of the all Indian pueblo council to
14 continue its four-hundred-year tradition of advocating for the
15 traditions, cultures and governments of the pueblo nations and
16 participating in government-to-government discussions with the
17 state; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate encourage the all
19 Indian pueblo council to engage in government-to-government
20 discussions with other tribes and the state to develop a
21 process to implement the statement of principles and policies
22 adopted on July 8, 1996; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to
24 issue a proclamation designating July 7, 1998 as "Government-
25 to-Government Communications Day"; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
2 transmitted to the governors of the nineteen member pueblos of
3 the all Indian pueblo council, the chairman of the all Indian
4 pueblo council, the governor of the state, the New Mexico
5 state cabinet secretaries, the president of the United States
6 and the director of the division on indigenous people's rights
7 at the United Nations.

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1 FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2 SECOND SESSION, 1998

3
4
5 February 16, 1998

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7 Mr. President:

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9 Your RULES COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

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11 SENATE MEMORIAL 23

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

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16 Respectfully submitted,

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23 Gloria Howes, Chairman

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Adopted _____ Not

Adopted _____

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(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 5 For 0 Against

Yes: 5

No: 0

Excused: Aragon, Gorham, Stockard

Absent: None

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