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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 62

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Nick L. Salazar

A JOINT MEMORIAL

ACKNOWLEDGING THE HISTORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE COLLEGE
OF SANTA FE ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS CHARTER.

WHEREAS, St. Michael's College was founded in Santa Fe in
1859 by four members of the Brothers of the Christian Schools,
a teaching order founded by Jean Baptiste de la Salle in 1684;
and

WHEREAS, the Christian Brothers were recruited from
France by Bishop Jean Baptiste Lamy, the first bishop of New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, St. Michael's College was housed in an adobe hut
attached to San Miguel Chapel, located one block from the
present-day state capitol; and

WHEREAS, St. Michael's College provided the only
education for young men of the territory for many years; and

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1 WHEREAS, St. Michael's College expanded to include higher
2 education and was chartered as the "College of the Christian
3 Brothers of New Mexico" by the New Mexico Territorial
4 Legislature in 1874; and

5 WHEREAS, St. Michael's College built its campus along the
6 Santa Fe Trail, including the present-day Lamy Building that
7 houses the state Tourism Department; and

8 WHEREAS, more than one-fifth of the delegates to the 1910
9 statehood Constitutional Convention were graduates of St.
10 Michael's College; and

11 WHEREAS, while St. Michael's College dropped higher
12 education after World War I, college-level courses were
13 revived by Brother Benildus of Mary in 1947 on the grounds of
14 the Bruns Army Hospital in Santa Fe, enrolling 148 students
15 with a faculty of 15 Christian Brothers; and

16 WHEREAS, St. Michael's College graduated its first class
17 of 23 students in 1953, including future congressman and
18 Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan Jr.; and

19 WHEREAS, the college was accredited in 1965, and in 1966
20 it began admitting women and changed its name to the College
21 of Santa Fe; and

22 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe assumed responsibility
23 for the continuation of services provided by the University of
24 Albuquerque, which closed in 1986, and has since expanded its
25 undergraduate programs in Albuquerque, now serving over 700

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1 students each year; and

2 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe has contributed
3 significantly to the education of New Mexicans, and its alumni
4 include thousands of New Mexicans in government service,
5 professional occupations, education, business, the arts and
6 social services; and

7 WHEREAS, Brother Benildus, Brother Raymond Ogden, Brother
8 Cyprian Luke, Brother Donald Mouton and Dr. James Fries have
9 served as presidents of the College of Santa Fe since 1947;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe, under the direction of
12 an independent Board of Trustees, remains committed to the
13 Lasallian philosophy of a caring, personalized education and a
14 strong liberal arts curriculum, and it serves the community by
15 offering many cultural and educational events annually; and

16 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe has continued to expand
17 its regional, national and international reach and reputation
18 through collaborative programs in New Mexico, the United
19 States and Mexico; and

20 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe is now known throughout
21 the United States as a preeminent institution for higher
22 education in the liberal arts, visual arts, performing arts
23 and moving image arts; and

24 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe operates a professional
25 motion picture studio and sound stage which is used by the

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1 film industry, operates a collaborative education program at
2 Santa Fe's Alvord Elementary School, offers the only master's
3 degree in education in the United States specifically devoted
4 to at-risk youth and offers teachers in our state the only
5 alternative certification program for bilingual and English as
6 a second language endorsement; and

7 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe has recently completed
8 the construction of its new Visual Arts Center, a unique
9 structure in New Mexico designed by renowned Mexican architect
10 Ricardo Legorreta; and

11 WHEREAS, the College of Santa Fe graduates approximately
12 400 students each year and is one of three private, nonprofit
13 liberal arts colleges in New Mexico that continue to
14 contribute significantly to the higher education of New
15 Mexico's students;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the College of Santa Fe, President
18 James Fries, Board of Trustees Chairman Christopher Leinberger
19 and its Board of Trustees, its faculty, staff, students and
20 alumni are congratulated on the quasiqucentennial, the 125th
21 anniversary of its charter, issued by the Legislature of the
22 Territory of New Mexico in 1874; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the president of the College of Santa Fe.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
2 FIRST SESSION, 1999
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6 February 24, 1999
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8 Mr. Speaker:
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10 Your EDUCATION COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred
11

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with
15 recommendation that it DO PASS.
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17 Respectfully submitted,
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION, 1999

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Adopted _____ Not Adopted _____

(Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

Date _____

The roll call vote was 13 For 0 Against

Yes: 13

Excused: Burpo, Marquardt, Wright

Absent: None

J: \99BillsWP\HJ062

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