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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 4

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

A JOINT MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AREA IN THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE CENTERED AROUND LOUISIANA BOULEVARD AND CENTRAL AVENUE BETWEEN LOMAS BOULEVARD AND GIBSON BOULEVARD, COMPRISING THE COMMUNITIES OF LA MESA, TRUMBULL VILLAGE, SOUTH SAN PEDRO, ELDER HOMESTEAD AND FAIR WEST, KNOWN AS THE "INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT".

WHEREAS, the area in the city of Albuquerque centered around Louisiana boulevard and Central avenue between Lomas boulevard and Gibson boulevard from Wyoming boulevard to San Mateo boulevard is commonly recognized as the most international and culturally diverse area of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the residents living in that community come from various countries of origin and have diverse ethnic, racial and national backgrounds; and

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1 WHEREAS, in the international district, Native Americans
2 and New Mexicans whose families have been in New Mexico for
3 hundreds of years live alongside recent immigrants from Mexico,
4 Central and South America, Asia, Europe, Africa and
5 many other places; and

6 WHEREAS, many cultures, customs and faiths are represented
7 in this diverse and vibrant part of the city, and over twenty-
8 seven languages are spoken at Highland high school; and

9 WHEREAS, the area has been home for the last five decades
10 to the United States department of state's refugee resettlement
11 program; and

12 WHEREAS, hundreds of residents, business operators and
13 local elected officials held several public meetings, had
14 thoughtful discourse and unanimously concluded that creating
15 awareness of and leveraging the area's positive image are
16 critical to building the community and supporting local
17 business and property; and

18 WHEREAS, since its formal recognition in 2009, the
19 international district identity has started to flourish through
20 economic development by creating awareness of the community's
21 vibrant and diverse culture, goods and services; and

22 WHEREAS, the international district is supported by local,
23 county and city elected officials in the community and has
24 supported identity-building through signage and long-range
25 planning; and

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