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SENATE MEMORIAL 44

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 28, 2016 "LAS VEGAS DAY" IN THE SENATE AND
RECOGNIZING THE YOUTH OF LAS VEGAS AND SAN MIGUEL COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Las Vegas was founded in 1835 as a Spanish land
grant called Nuestra Senora de los Dolores de Las Vegas
Grandes; and

WHEREAS, the Spanish settlers who founded the community
had roots going back to the seventeenth century; and

WHEREAS, the Acequia Madre in Las Vegas stands as a
testament to one hundred fifty years of resourcefulness and
ingenuity; and

WHEREAS, Las Vegas was a key rest stop, resupply point and
protector of the Santa Fe trail, serving as a lifeline between
the growing West and the eastern parts of the United States;
and

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1 WHEREAS, Pablo Herrera, territorial state representative,
2 led las gorras blancas, or the white caps, to retain the land
3 grants; and

4 WHEREAS, the first Hispanic political party in the United
5 States, el partido de pueblo unido, or the united people's
6 party, was formed in San Miguel county; and

7 WHEREAS, historical characters such as Doc Holliday, Billy
8 the Kid, Wyatt Earp and Jesse James were attracted to the area;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county have more than
11 nine hundred buildings on the national register of historic
12 places; and

13 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county are signature
14 places of charm and wonder in the "Land of Enchantment", a
15 spectacular tourist destination, with fine historic hotels,
16 authentic New Mexico character and easy access to other local
17 historic sites and outdoor recreation; and

18 WHEREAS, aside from its historic and tourist attractions,
19 Las Vegas is home to many critical state institutions; and

20 WHEREAS, one of these is the New Mexico behavioral health
21 institute at Las Vegas, the only state-owned and state-operated
22 psychiatric hospital, which provides critical medical services
23 to the state, including long-term nursing care for the elderly
24 and disabled; and

25 WHEREAS, Las Vegas is also home to five major educational

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1 institutions: New Mexico highlands university, Luna community
2 college, United world college, Las Vegas city public school
3 district and west Las Vegas public school district; and

4 WHEREAS, these educational institutions are gems of the
5 city and crucibles of learning, teaching and discovery, not
6 just for northern New Mexico, but for the entire state and the
7 globe; and

8 WHEREAS, the media arts center at Luna community college
9 is affirmation that the film industry is strongly supported in
10 northern New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, the media arts center at Luna community college
12 capitalizes on the creativity of Las Vegas and San Miguel
13 county youth; and

14 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county recognize that
15 young people are the community's most precious resource and
16 greatest asset; and

17 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will endeavor to
18 listen and to learn from the voice of youth; and

19 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will champion
20 that every child be validated, supported and respected; and

21 WHEREAS, Las Vegas and San Miguel county will endeavor to
22 provide activities for area youth; and

23 WHEREAS, 2016 will be recognized as the year of youth in
24 Las Vegas and San Miguel county;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE

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1 OF NEW MEXICO that the distinguished history and heritage of
2 Las Vegas and San Miguel county be recognized and that January
3 28, 2016 be declared "Las Vegas Day" in the senate; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that support be expressed for the
5 film industry and its efforts to promote the people and
6 attractions of and to create jobs in northern New Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the mayor of Las Vegas, the members of the city
9 council of Las Vegas and the board of county commissioners of
10 San Miguel county.