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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 11, 2021 "NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has been an important educational, cultural, social and economic asset in New Mexico, particularly northern New Mexico, since 1893; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university serves more than three thousand students each year and has more than five hundred employees at the school's main campus and centers; and

WHEREAS, the vision of New Mexico highlands university is to be a premier university, transforming lives and communities now and for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the core values of New Mexico highlands university are excellence, diversity, accessibility and responsiveness; and

WHEREAS, the priorities of New Mexico highlands university are academic excellence, academic integration and student success; strategic enrollment management; vibrant campus and university life; community partnerships; technological advancement and innovation; and enhanced communication and efficiency across the university; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university effectively serves students across the state and beyond its borders,

1 online and on its campuses and centers in Las Vegas, Santa  
2 Fe, Farmington, Rio Rancho and Albuquerque; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university educates many  
4 first-generation college students, transforming their lives  
5 and the lives of their families and future generations; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university has many active  
7 alumni, representing every state, many countries and nineteen  
8 tribes and pueblos, and seeks to effectively reach out to all  
9 alumni through the establishment of a vibrant alumni  
10 association board of directors; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university had an  
12 unprecedented grant year with over ten million dollars  
13 (\$10,000,000) awarded, hired three new deans and increased  
14 student retention during the coronavirus disease 2019  
15 pandemic, and the New Mexico highlands university emergency  
16 operations team effectively handled emergencies such as a  
17 cyberattack and issues related to the coronavirus disease  
18 2019 pandemic; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university received a New  
20 Mexico governor's emergency education relief fund grant of  
21 six hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$660,000) to support  
22 teachers and parents with online instruction and developed  
23 two new distance master of arts degree programs, cultural  
24 resource management and criminology; and

25 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university partnered with

1 John Wiley and sons, inc. to market and recruit online degree  
2 programs, developed a certificate in emerging business  
3 markets entrepreneurship: industrial hemp and created a  
4 concentration in the masters in education leadership in  
5 mathematics teacher leadership; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university received a  
7 grant of nine hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$970,000)  
8 from the Andrew W. Mellon foundation to support the  
9 development of a network of community memory laboratories  
10 serving the Indo-Hispanic population in rural New Mexico and  
11 Colorado and a three-million-dollar (\$3,000,000), five-year  
12 grant from the United States department of education for the  
13 recruitment and retention of Hispanic and low-income  
14 students; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university hired a  
16 director of the Native American social work studies  
17 institute; and

18 WHEREAS, seven New Mexico highlands university athletes  
19 earned a cumulative three-point grade average or higher,  
20 ninety-two athletes earned a cumulative three and five-tenths  
21 point grade average or higher, fourteen athletes were  
22 recognized as all-Rocky Mountain athletic conference  
23 performers and fifty-five athletes were recognized as Rocky  
24 Mountain athletic conference scholars; and

25 WHEREAS, Jonathon Trujillo was named an all-American

1 wrestler, and many dedicated student athletes completed  
2 significant hours of community service; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university also  
4 established the center for professional development and  
5 career readiness, partnered with El Centro family health to  
6 increase access to health care through telehealth services,  
7 provided coronavirus disease 2019 testing for all students  
8 and provided students with new initiatives, such as a campus-  
9 wide digital sign system and enhanced fitness and game room  
10 equipment; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university is a federally  
12 designated Hispanic-serving institution, with more than fifty  
13 percent enrolled Hispanic students, and strives to be a  
14 Native-American-serving institution, with nearly nine percent  
15 enrolled Native American students; and

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico highlands university welcomes  
17 students from northern New Mexico, all of New Mexico, the  
18 United States and the world;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
20 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 11,  
21 2021 be declared "New Mexico Highlands University Day" in the  
22 house of representatives; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico highlands  
24 university be commended for its service and dedication to the  
25 residents of New Mexico; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the president of New Mexico highlands university.

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