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SENATE MEMORIAL 39

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

Jacob R. Candelaria

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT NEW MEXICO'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION PURSUE
FEDERAL FUNDING FOR A MUSEUM DEDICATED TO LAND GRANT HISTORY IN
NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, New Mexico's land grants are an important part of
the state's culture and history and have played a unique role
in the state, both when the area was part of Spanish and
Mexican territory and when Nuevo México was incorporated into
the United States; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's land grants define the identity of
many of the state's indigenous people; and

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 5 of the constitution of New
Mexico states, "The rights, privileges and immunities, civil,
political and religious guaranteed to the people of New Mexico
by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo shall be preserved

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1 inviolate", providing powerful constitutional protection to the
2 rights of the state's land grant communities; and

3 WHEREAS, while other states in the southwest had land
4 grants, in no other state have land grants played such a
5 significant role, and in no other state is land grant identity
6 as strong as in New Mexico; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico's land grant heirs have fought in
8 every war for the United States since 1848, when the area that
9 is now New Mexico became part of the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, preservation of this history is in the best
11 interest of the United States and of New Mexico and its
12 residents, now and for the future, in order that this unique
13 aspect of the history of the nation be remembered;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
15 OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico's congressional delegation be
16 requested to pursue federal funding for a museum dedicated to
17 the history of New Mexico's land grants; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town of Atrisco land grant
19 be considered as the location for a state land grant museum, as
20 it is both one of the most historic land grants in the state
21 and it is centrally located, making such a museum easy to
22 visit; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the members of New Mexico's congressional
25 delegation.

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