



The Legislature  
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State of New Mexico

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HOUSE MEMORIAL 67

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Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE BEN LUJAN

REPRESENTATIVE JIM R. TRUJILLO  
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1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 10, 2008 "SANTA FE FOUR HUNDREDTH  
3 ANNIVERSARY DAY" AT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
4 COMMEMORATING THE MORE THAN FOUR-HUNDRED-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF  
5 THE SETTLEMENT AND FOUNDING OF LA VILLA REAL DE LA SANTA FE DE  
6 SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS, 1607-1610.

7  
8 WHEREAS, before 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio  
9 Grande region of New Mexico had inhabited the area now  
10 officially known as La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San  
11 Francisco de Asis, commonly called Santa Fe, for hundreds of  
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, from the first arrival of New Mexico's Spanish  
14 colonists in August of 1598, the pueblo people of the Rio  
15 Grande and adjoining regions of New Mexico provided support  
16 and sustenance to those colonists, which allowed the colonists  
17 to persevere at San Gabriel del Yunque, the first villa and  
18 capital of New Mexico located in the pueblo lands of Okeh  
19 Owinge, as well as at other small outlying settlements; and

20 WHEREAS, from the time of 1607, there existed a small  
21 settlement of Spanish colonists in that same area; and

22 WHEREAS, on March 30, 1609, the viceroy of New Spain,  
23 Martin Lopez de Gauna, upon the appointment of Don Pedro de  
24 Peralta as governor and captain general of New Mexico, ordered  
25 Governor Peralta to arrive in New Mexico before the end of

1 1609 and to establish a villa at the site of what is now Santa  
2 Fe; and

3 WHEREAS, by 1610, Governor Peralta had established his  
4 villa at the site of what is now Santa Fe; and

5 WHEREAS, the pueblo people of New Mexico became part of  
6 the extended community of the Spanish colonists, providing a  
7 pool for intermarriage and becoming a source, both willingly  
8 and unwillingly, of labor and economic support for the  
9 colonists; and

10 WHEREAS, the Spanish colonists and the pueblo people  
11 engaged in a two-way exchange of knowledge and cultural  
12 folkways that would be mutually advantageous for both peoples;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, seventy years following the establishment of  
15 the villa of Santa Fe, the pueblo people took up arms and  
16 forced the inhabitants of the villa to retreat to El Paso in  
17 what was then southern New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1692, the Spanish colonists began a return  
19 to the villa, which, following an initial peaceful return,  
20 resulted in an armed conflict lasting through 1696; and

21 WHEREAS, following the repopulation of Santa Fe and  
22 reinstitution of Spanish government in New Mexico, the pueblo  
23 people found ways to protect their traditional ways while  
24 adapting to the Spanish form of government and continuing the  
25 process of mutual cultural interchange and support; and

1           WHEREAS, over the following years into the twentieth  
2 century and despite intermittent disputes, the colonists and  
3 their descendants, many of whom were and are tied by blood to  
4 the pueblo people and other surrounding Native American  
5 tribes, and the pueblo people and other surrounding Native  
6 American tribes formed alliances and accommodated each other's  
7 cultures, allowing Santa Fe to flourish; and

8           WHEREAS, the peaceful acceptance of each other's  
9 cultures continued through the United States' conquest of New  
10 Mexico during the war with Mexico and contributed to the  
11 evolution of Santa Fe's cultural heritage, and it resulted in  
12 the recognition by the state and federal governments of the  
13 sovereignty rights of the pueblo people, including their  
14 rights to self-government; and

15           WHEREAS, during the period of 2008 through 2010, Santa  
16 Fe shall proudly observe the four-hundred-year anniversary of  
17 its settlement and subsequent founding as a villa and its  
18 multicultural heritage with suitable events and observances by  
19 the residents of Santa Fe to commemorate its first four  
20 hundred years and to pass on to future generations the Indo-  
21 Hispano heritage of Santa Fe and the surrounding region; and

22           WHEREAS, it is important that the commemoration provide  
23 a foundation for healing the past and opening the way for a  
24 permanent reconciliation between the descendants of Santa Fe's  
25 Spanish colonists and the pueblo peoples and surrounding

1 Native American tribes as well as the descendants of all of  
2 the other Santa Fe settlers who have contributed to Santa Fe's  
3 multicultural heritage;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 10,  
6 2008 be declared "Santa Fe Four Hundredth Anniversary Day" at  
7 the house of representatives and that congratulations be  
8 expressed to the residents of Santa Fe and gratitude be  
9 expressed to the surrounding pueblo communities for the  
10 commemoration of the four-hundred-year establishment of Santa  
11 Fe as a villa; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pueblo people and the  
13 citizens of Santa Fe be invited and encouraged to participate  
14 in ceremonies of reconciliation and mutual recognition in  
15 furtherance of the more than four-hundred-year history of  
16 Santa Fe; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the mayor and city council of the city of Santa  
19 Fe and to the governors and tribal councils of all the pueblos  
20 of New Mexico and to the other surrounding Native American  
21 tribes.

S/ BEN LUJAN  
BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

S/ STEPHEN R. ARIAS  
STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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