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HOUSE MEMORIAL 5

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

Jack Chatfield

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 4, 2021 "HARDING COUNTY DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND CELEBRATING HARDING COUNTY'S ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, with vast plains and mesas, grasslands and rivers, Harding county is as unique as it is beautiful; and

WHEREAS, when the railroads opened up settlement of the west, homesteaders settled in what is now remote Harding county and southern Union county until the great depression and the dust bowl impeded progress; and

WHEREAS, although small in terms of population, Harding county is rich in history and geography; and

WHEREAS, Harding county was created by the state legislature on March 4, 1921, with Governor Merritt C. Mechem conferring official status to Harding county; and

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1 WHEREAS, Harding county is named for United States
2 President Warren G. Harding and was created from parts of Union
3 and Mora counties; and

4 WHEREAS, March 4, 1921 also was the same day Warren G.
5 Harding was inaugurated as the twenty-ninth president of the
6 United States; and

7 WHEREAS, Harding county is the least populous county in
8 New Mexico, and the only incorporated cities in the county are
9 Roy and Mosquero, the county seat; and

10 WHEREAS, Harding county has a total area of two thousand
11 one hundred twenty-six square miles and is divided between high
12 prairie to the northwest and a lower semi-desert rangeland to
13 the southeast; and

14 WHEREAS, Harding county is bounded on the west by the
15 Canadian river canyon, one of the most striking features in
16 eastern New Mexico, with soaring cliffs, diverse flora and
17 fauna, wild rivers, striking rock formations and historic
18 ruins; and

19 WHEREAS, the Kiowa national grasslands is located in the
20 northern section of Harding county and is part of a national
21 grasslands system that covers two hundred sixty-three thousand
22 nine hundred fifty-four acres scattered throughout New Mexico,
23 Texas and Oklahoma; and

24 WHEREAS, dinosaur tracks start at Mosquero creek and
25 stretch northward through New Mexico and southeastern Colorado;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, Harding county is home to cowboys and cowgirls
3 and colorful characters like Bob Wills, who was a barber in a
4 Roy barbershop in his pre-Texas Playboys music days; and

5 WHEREAS, Harding county residents are a blend of Hispanic
6 and Anglo cultures; and

7 WHEREAS, much of the personal income in Harding county is
8 from cattle ranching; and

9 WHEREAS, Harding county boasts blue skies with three
10 hundred sixty days of sunshine per year; and

11 WHEREAS, Harding county was founded on preserving the
12 principles of patriotism, prosperity and progress; and

13 WHEREAS, residents of Harding county dedicate themselves
14 to promoting harmony and the social welfare of people and
15 protecting the rights of people;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
17 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the great
18 people and great places of Harding county be recognized on its
19 one hundredth birthday; and

20 BE IT RESOLVED that March 4, 2021 be declared "Harding
21 County Day" in the house of representatives; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the members of the board of county commissioners
24 of Harding county.

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