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Calendar No. 306

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 148

Designating 1998 as the ''Oñate Cuartocentenario'', the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 8, 1997

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. THOMPSON, Mrs. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. BENNETT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. BURNS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. GORTON, Mr. HATCH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BOND, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. COATS, Mr. HELMS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. FRIST, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. INOUYE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BUMPERS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERREY, Mr. DODD, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. REID, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BAUCUS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

FEBRUARY 12, 1998

Reported by Mr. HATCH, with an amendment and an amendment to the title

[Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic]

RESOLUTION

Designating 1998 as the ''Oñate Cuartocentenario'', the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.

Whereas Don Juan de Oñate of Spain settled the first permanent colony of Europeans in the Southwest Region of the United States, known as San Gabriel de Los Españoles, and located near modern day San Juan Pueblo and Española, New Mexico;

Whereas the first Spanish capital was established at San Juan de los Caballeros in July of 1598, predating the English settlement of Jamestown in 1610 by 12 years;

Whereas Spanish exploration activity in the New World began in 1512 when Ponce de León explored the Florida peninsula, and included the explorations of Francisco Coronado throughout California to Kansas and across Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma from 1540 to 1542;

Whereas the major Spanish settlement efforts were focused in modern day Florida and New Mexico, and 1998 marks the 400th anniversary of the first permanent settlement in New Mexico, referred to as the Cuartocentenario;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are the fastest growing minority group in the United States and include descendants of the Spanish, Mexican, Cuban, Puerto Rican, Central American, and other Hispanic peoples;

Whereas the United States Census Bureau estimated in March 1993 that the Hispanic population of the United States was 22,800,000; the current estimate of the Hispanic population in the United States is 26,000,000, with projections of 30,000,000 by the year 2000, 40,000,000 by 2010, and almost 60,000,000 (or 20 percent of the total United States population) by the year 2030;

Whereas the number of Hispanic immigrants to the United States has increased from 1,500,000 in the 1960's, to

2,400,000 in the 1970's, to 4,500,000 in the 1980's, and the number of Hispanic immigrants is expected to continue to rise;

Whereas two-thirds of all Hispanics in the United States today are of Mexican origin, and 70 percent of United States Hispanics live in 4 States: California, Texas, New York, and Florida;

Whereas New Mexico's Hispanic population is 39 percent (or over 660,000 of the 1995 total State population of 1,700,000) and represents the highest percentage of Hispanics in any State in the United States;

Whereas the United States has an enriched legacy of Hispanic influence in politics, government, business, and culture due to the early settlements and continuous influx of Hispanics into the United States;

Whereas the New Mexico State Government has funded a Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with assistance from the Federal Government, local governments, and private contributions, to celebrate and preserve Hispanic culture including literature, performing arts, visual arts, music, culinary arts, and language arts;

Whereas the Archbishop of Santa Fe, Michael Sheehan, is planning events throughout 1998 in New Mexico, including the opening of ''Jubilee year'', an encuentro at Santo Domingo Pueblo to mark the meeting of the missionaries with the Pueblo peoples, an Archdiocesan reconciliation service at the Santuario de Chimayo, and an Archdiocesan celebration of St. Francis of Assisi in Santa Fe;

Whereas in order to commemorate Don Juan de Oñate's arrival, the city of Española will have a fiesta in July 1998, the city of Santa Fe is planning several special events,

and the New Mexico statewide committee is planning a parade, a historical costume ball, and a pageant in Albuquerque; and

Whereas many other religious, educational, and social events are being planned around New Mexico to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

~~(1) designates the year 1998 as the "Oñate Cuartocentenario" to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico;~~

~~(2) recognizes the cultural and economic importance of the Spanish settlements throughout the Southwest Region of the United States;~~

~~(3) expresses its support for the work of the Española Plaza Foundation, the Santa Fe and Albuquerque Cuartocentenario committees, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center Board of Directors, the Hispanic Cultural Foundation Board of Trustees, as well as other interested groups that are preparing Oñate Cuartocentenario activities;~~

~~(4) expresses its support for the events to be held in New Mexico and the Southwest in observance of the Oñate Cuartocentenario;~~

~~(5) requests that the President issue a proclamation—~~

~~(A) declaring 1998 as the "Oñate Cuartocentenario" to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico; and~~

~~(B) calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the year with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to honor and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic people to the cultural and economic life of the United States; and~~

~~(6) calls upon the people of the United States to support, promote, and participate in the many Oñate Cuartocentenario activities being planned to commemorate the historic event of the early settling of the Southwest Region of the United States by the Spanish.~~

(1) designates the year 1998 as the "New Mexico Cuartocentenario" to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico;

(2) recognizes the cultural and economic importance of the Spanish settlements throughout the Southwest Region of the United States;

(3) expresses its support for the work of the Española Plaza Foundation, the Santa Fe and Albuquerque Cuartocentenario committees, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center Board of Directors, the Hispanic Cultural Foundation Board of Trustees, as well as other interested groups that are preparing New Mexico Cuartocentenario activities;

(4) expresses its support for the events to be held in New Mexico and the Southwest in observance of the New Mexico Cuartocentenario;

(5) requests that the President issue a proclamation—

(A) declaring 1998 as the "New Mexico Cuartocentenario" to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico; and

(B) calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the year with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to honor and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic people to the cultural and economic life of the United States; and

(6) calls upon the people of the United States to support, promote, and participate in the many New

Mexico Cuartocentenario activities being planned to commemorate the historic event of the early settling of the Southwest Region of the United States by the Spanish.

Amend the title so as to read: ''A resolution designating 1998 as the 'New Mexico Cuartocentenario', the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.''.

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