



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE ANDY NUÑEZ

AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
3 OF THE SIGNING OF THE MORRILL ACT OF 1862 AND SUBSEQUENT
4 FEDERAL LEGISLATION THAT CREATED AND ENHANCED THE MISSION OF
5 NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY, NEW MEXICO'S LAND-GRANT COLLEGE.
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7 WHEREAS, the Morrill Act of 1862, which was enacted by
8 the United States congress and signed into law on July 2, 1862
9 by President Abraham Lincoln, authorized the formation of
10 land-grant colleges in all of the states and territories; and

11 WHEREAS, under the act, each eligible state received a
12 total of thirty thousand acres of federal land, either within
13 or contiguous to its boundaries, for each member of congress
14 that the state had as of the 1860 census; and

15 WHEREAS, the purpose of establishing land-grant colleges
16 was, according to language in the act, "without excluding
17 other scientific and classical studies, and including military
18 tactic, to teach such branches of learning as are related to
19 agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the
20 legislatures of the States may respectively prescribe, in
21 order to promote the liberal and practical education of the
22 industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in
23 life"; and

24 WHEREAS, the Hatch Act of 1887 created the agricultural
25 experiment station system within the agricultural colleges of

1 land-grant universities for the purpose of conducting
2 fundamental and applied research to address a state's
3 agricultural, environmental and economic issues to benefit
4 communities in every part of the state; and

5 WHEREAS, the New Mexico territorial legislature of 1889
6 established the land-grant "agriculture college and experiment
7 station", which officially opened on January 21, 1890; and

8 WHEREAS, during its first full academic year, the
9 college became known as the "New Mexico college of agriculture
10 and mechanic arts", the first degree-granting institution in
11 the New Mexico territory; and

12 WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Morrill Act of 1862
13 and subsequent federal legislation, the special mission of
14 land-grant institutions has been to provide a liberal and
15 practical education for students and to sustain programs of
16 research, extension education and public service; and

17 WHEREAS, the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 established the
18 cooperative extension service within the agricultural colleges
19 of land-grant universities to disseminate the research
20 findings of agricultural experiment station scientists; and

21 WHEREAS, as a result, New Mexico state university's
22 agricultural experiment station's research addresses issues
23 raised by New Mexicans and disseminates this research-based
24 knowledge through classroom teaching and statewide cooperative
25 extension offices, thereby significantly broadening the

1 outreach and impact of New Mexico state university; and

2 WHEREAS, the Morrill Act of 1862 and subsequent federal
3 legislation continue to provide New Mexico state university
4 and its college of agricultural, consumer and environmental
5 sciences with the research and outreach mission to produce and
6 disseminate research-based knowledge to inform agricultural
7 industries, natural resource management practice and policies,
8 businesses, public agencies, households, families and
9 individuals, thereby providing science-based solutions for New
10 Mexico and helping to sustain and maintain America's
11 leadership and competitiveness in the twenty-first century and
12 beyond;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize
15 and value the enactment of the Morrill Act of 1862 and of
16 subsequent federal legislation, all of which have leveraged
17 billions of dollars into the state's economy, educated
18 hundreds of thousands of New Mexicans, helped establish
19 thousands of business enterprises, worked to preserve diverse
20 cultures and traditions, supplied the building blocks for
21 strong individuals and families and consistently improved the
22 economic, social, environmental, agricultural and natural
23 resource interests for all New Mexico residents, in all
24 counties and in all Native American communities statewide; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

1 transmitted to the board of regents of New Mexico state
2 university in honor and celebration of the sesquicentennial
3 anniversary of the signing of the Morrill Act of 1862.

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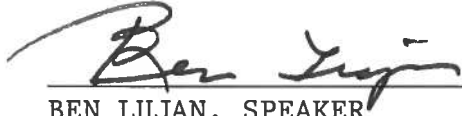
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BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES