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SENATE MEMORIAL

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE TO RECOGNIZE DR. CANDACE KAYE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION INSTITUTE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES, AND NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FOR OPENING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC EXCHANGE THROUGH A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MONGOLIAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, Mongolia is a mostly rural country located in Asia, is slightly smaller than Alaska and lies between China and Russia; and

WHEREAS, Mongolia has vast semi-desert and desert plains, grassy steppes with mountains in the west and southwest and, like New Mexico, experiences dust storms, grassland and forest fires, drought and harsh winter conditions; and

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1 WHEREAS, Mongolia has a population of three million two
2 hundred thousand, compared to New Mexico's population of two
3 million one hundred thousand; and

4 WHEREAS, Mongolia is a democracy with a registered voter
5 turnout of more than eighty percent and in which women make up
6 more than one-third of its government ministers; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Candace Kaye is a former United States
8 diplomatic attache to Mongolia and a Fulbright scholar who, in
9 2010 and 2011, conducted research in Mongolia on the impact of
10 its educational policies for young children; and

11 WHEREAS, through Dr. Kaye's efforts, New Mexico state
12 university's college of education has entered into a memorandum
13 of understanding for a term of five years with the Mongolian
14 state university of education to promote the exchange of
15 students, faculty and administrative staff; and

16 WHEREAS, the educational systems in both Mongolia and New
17 Mexico have similar goals and challenges in providing early
18 childhood education to rural and underserved areas; and

19 WHEREAS, under the auspices of the memorandum of
20 understanding, Mongolia seeks to transform its educational
21 system from a teacher-centered approach that is a holdover from
22 the country's former status as part of the former Soviet Union
23 to a student-centered approach rooted in western thought and
24 culture; and

25 WHEREAS, another purpose of the agreement is to promote

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1 collaborative research projects, lectures, symposia, seminars
2 and workshops as well as the exchange of academic information
3 and materials; and

4 WHEREAS, the memorandum of understanding between New
5 Mexico state university and the Mongolian state university of
6 education is an important first step toward expanded cultural,
7 educational and economic exchange opportunities between
8 Mongolia and New Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, the economies of both Mongolia and New Mexico
10 depend on agriculture, the raising of livestock and the
11 exploration and development of mineral and petroleum resources;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Mongolia's estimated 2012 gross domestic product
14 was fifteen billion two hundred twenty million dollars
15 (\$15,220,000,000), with a real growth rate of twelve and seven-
16 tenths percent; and

17 WHEREAS, New Mexico's 2012 gross domestic product was
18 eighty-two billion five hundred million dollars
19 (\$82,500,000,000), with a much lower growth rate of three and
20 nine-tenths percent;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
22 OF NEW MEXICO that Dr. Candace Kaye be recognized for her
23 scholarship in comparative early childhood educational policies
24 and curricula, her longstanding interest in Mongolia and its
25 people and her vision to formalize a mutually beneficial

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1 relationship between the Mongolian state university and New
2 Mexico state university; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico state university's
4 college of education be recognized as the first and only
5 institution of higher education in the world to formalize a
6 relationship with the Mongolian state university of education;
7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the New Mexico
9 legislature be requested to educate their constituents
10 regarding the potential opportunities for educational, cultural
11 and economic exchange with Mongolia that have been opened by
12 New Mexico state university through its memorandum of
13 understanding with the Mongolian state university of education;
14 and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the regents and president of New Mexico state
17 university, the dean of the college of education of New Mexico
18 state university, each member of the New Mexico legislature,
19 Dr. Candace Kaye, the president of the Mongolian state
20 university in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and the early childhood
21 education sector of the ministry of education, culture and
22 science of Mongolia.

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