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**Rep. Luján Visits with Espanola High School Mariachi Band**

Washington, DC - Today, Rep. Ben Ray Luján visited with the Espanola Valley High School mariachi band that marched in yesterday's inaugural parade at President Barack Obama's invitation.

"It's exciting to visit with New Mexicans at this important time in our nation's history," said Luján. "The Espanola Valley High School mariachi band, Mariachi Sol del Valle, made Northern New Mexico proud. They caught President Obama's eye when he visited Espanola, and he invited them to march in the inaugural parade. It is an honor to meet with these talented young men and women from my district."

The band played for the President when he visited Espanola in 2008. Mariachi Sol del Valle was chosen from 1,400 applicants to be one of 80 bands to march in the parade. Rep. Luján provided parents and chaperones with tickets to the inauguration.

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