

Monday, November 21, 2011

Santa Fe, NM – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico's Third District released the following statement today on Native American Heritage Month, which is celebrated during November.

“This month, we recognize the enduring contributions of Native Americans and their achievements that play an important role in the fabric of our nation. New Mexico’s history has been shaped by the influence of Native American culture and enriched by its deep-rooted traditions. While we celebrate Native American Heritage Month during November, in New Mexico, we are reminded of their accomplishments every day.

“As our nation faces difficult economic challenges, it is critical that we make Native American communities an integral part of the effort to move our economy forward. We must continue to build a partnership that respects the sovereignty of tribal communities while working together to invest in education and infrastructure that will open up the doors to a world of possibilities. Already we have seen progress in bringing broadband to rural areas that will connect tribal communities and expand economic opportunities.

“As we celebrate the impact that Native Americans have had over the course of our nation’s history, let us continue our efforts to strengthen our communities and reflect the shared dream for a better tomorrow.”

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