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SENATE MEMORIAL 8

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia L. Nava

A MEMORIAL

**RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BILINGUALISM AND
MULTILINGUALISM, AND DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 2002 "EL DIA DE LOS
NINOS, DIA DE LOS LIBROS".**

**WHEREAS, one in five New Mexico school children comes
from a home in which a language other than English is spoken;
and**

**WHEREAS, United States citizens, including New Mexico
residents, are increasingly required to compete in an
international marketplace in which bilingualism and
multilingualism are recognized as assets that contribute to
individual potential for success; and**

**WHEREAS, the legislature has recognized, in the Bilingual
Multicultural Education Act, the educational value of the
cultural and linguistic backgrounds of students in school**

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 curricula, the value of providing students with opportunities
2 to expand their conceptual and linguistic abilities in a
3 successful and positive manner and the value of teaching
4 students to appreciate the beauty of different languages and
5 cultures; and

6 WHEREAS, the state board of education has established a
7 strategic goal of ensuring that all students graduate both
8 bilingual and biliterate in recognition of the importance of
9 bilingualism;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
11 OF NEW MEXICO that April 30, 2002 be declared "El Dia de los
12 Ninos, Dia de los Libros" to celebrate bilingual literacy and
13 to honor the diverse linguistic and cultural wealth of the
14 state of New Mexico; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that schools, universities,
16 libraries, community groups, museums and the media be
17 encouraged to celebrate the day by engaging in activities that
18 celebrate all languages; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that communities be encouraged to
20 increase their bilingual library collections and to urge their
21 local bookstores to create multilingual book displays; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that parents and family members
23 who speak a language other than English be encouraged to share
24 bilingual stories and games at schools and special events and
25 to engage in other activities that celebrate multilingualism;

. 140026. 2

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the association of commerce and industry, the
4 commission on higher education, the state department of public
5 education, the New Mexico municipal league, the New Mexico
6 association of counties and the New Mexico library
7 association.

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