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SENATE MEMORIAL 42

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

INTRODUCED BY

Bill B. O'Neill

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 13, 2013 "AUTISM DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, one of every eighty-eight children born this year will be later diagnosed as having an autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, autism affects people of all races and religions and all educational and economic levels; and

WHEREAS, autism is a lifelong condition that presents challenges to education, employment, housing and community participation; and

WHEREAS, parents, professionals and volunteers devote countless hours to improve the quality of life of individuals who have autism; and

WHEREAS, early intervention, evidence-based practices and proven supports greatly improve the outcomes and reduce the

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1 lifelong costs of care of people who have autism; and

2 WHEREAS, the New Mexico chapter of the autism society of  
3 America advocates and works for better state and federal  
4 legislation to assist individuals with autism and their  
5 families; and

6 WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico recognizes the valuable  
7 contributions to our communities, businesses, technologies and  
8 cultures made by people with autism;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico chapter of the autism society  
11 of America be recognized and that February 13, 2013 be declared  
12 "Autism Day" in the senate; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
14 transmitted to the New Mexico chapter of the autism society of  
15 America.