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SENATE MEMORIAL 16

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE DIFFERENCE MADE BY THE CHILDREN'S CANCER FUND OF NEW MEXICO AND DECLARING JANUARY 29, 2014 "CHILDREN'S CANCER FUND OF NEW MEXICO DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, cancer is the second-leading cause of death among children; and

WHEREAS, every week of 2014 at least one child in New Mexico will be diagnosed with cancer; and

WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico was established in 1972 to help New Mexico's children with cancer and their families cope with the day-to-day emotional and financial needs of living with and fighting cancer; and

WHEREAS, the only pediatric oncology treatment facilities are in Albuquerque, making it necessary for families to travel from throughout New Mexico to access cancer treatment; and

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1 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico is a
2 local agency, benefiting New Mexico's children and their
3 families; and

4 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico
5 maintains a direct presence at the university of New Mexico
6 pediatric oncology clinic, offering financial and emotional
7 support to families; and

8 WHEREAS, the organization supports New Mexico families by
9 providing them with assistance for transportation costs to and
10 from the clinic in the form of gasoline and transportation
11 vouchers as well as food and grocery vouchers to help parents
12 feed their families during lengthy stays at the clinic or
13 hospital; and

14 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico provides
15 emergency assistance with day-to-day living expenses for
16 families who are facing overwhelming financial burdens because
17 of their children's cancer diagnosis; and

18 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico helps to
19 minimize the trauma of painful treatments and procedures by
20 providing toys and bravery awards to children receiving
21 treatment; and

22 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico provides
23 scholarship assistance to students who have been treated for
24 childhood cancer in New Mexico and wish to continue their
25 education beyond high school; and

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1 WHEREAS, in the 2013-2014 academic year, thirty-three
2 students were awarded Erin Trujeque memorial scholarships
3 through the children's cancer fund of New Mexico, helping them
4 to achieve their dreams; and

5 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico provides
6 end-of-life hospice and funeral assistance to families in need;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the children's cancer fund of New Mexico will
9 assist over one thousand persons this year, extending a helping
10 hand to all children being treated for cancer in New Mexico and
11 to their families;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
13 OF NEW MEXICO that the children's cancer fund of New Mexico be
14 recognized for making a difference in the lives of families
15 facing childhood cancer; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that January 29, 2014 be declared
17 "Children's Cancer Fund of New Mexico Day" in the senate; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the children's cancer fund of New Mexico.