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SENATE MEMORIAL 18

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 9, 2015 AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A CANCER-FREE  
WORLD DAY" IN THE SENATE AND HONORING CANCER PATIENTS,  
SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHILE REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE  
BEEN LOST TO CANCER.

WHEREAS, more than ten thousand two hundred New Mexicans  
were newly diagnosed with cancer in 2014; and

WHEREAS, for over twenty-five years, the American cancer  
society relay for life has been celebrating hope with over  
eleven thousand four hundred New Mexicans annually, giving a  
voice to so many touched by cancer; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, many of these voices joined together to  
form a nationwide grass-roots movement called the American  
cancer society cancer action network, an organization united  
and relentless in pursuit of its mission to defeat cancer by

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1 working with lawmakers to create hope for those affected by  
2 cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges  
4 associated with their diagnoses, including physical, emotional,  
5 financial and day-to-day challenges; and

6 WHEREAS, people without access to quality, affordable  
7 health care are significantly more likely to be diagnosed with  
8 advanced-stage cancer, resulting in significantly worse health  
9 outcomes for low-income and uninsured cancer patients; and

10 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is sixty-  
11 eight percent, up from forty-nine percent nearly forty years  
12 ago, thanks to cancer research as well as lifesaving cancer  
13 prevention, screening, early detection and treatment programs;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, it is essential to preserve the quality of life  
16 and dignity of all people who have struggled with cancer and  
17 who often feel isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

18 WHEREAS, volunteers and members of the American cancer  
19 society cancer action network work diligently every day to  
20 advocate on behalf of cancer patients, survivors and caregivers  
21 so that one day cancer will be eliminated as a major public  
22 health issue;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
24 OF NEW MEXICO that February 9, 2015 be designated as "Create  
25 Hope for a Cancer-Free World Day" in the senate, honoring

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1 cancer patients, survivors and their families while remembering  
2 those who have been lost to cancer; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 transmitted to the governor and members of the New Mexico  
5 senate.

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