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SENATE MEMORIAL 43

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

INTRODUCED BY

Nancy Rodriguez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE OCTOBER 22, 2015 "DAY OF CONCERN ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUN VIOLENCE".

WHEREAS, the young people of New Mexico are its most valuable resource, and the community has a vested interest in ensuring that children grow up in an environment free from fear and violence; and

WHEREAS, young people deserve a voice in the issues that affect them and their futures; and

WHEREAS, in the past thirty years, one hundred sixteen thousand three hundred eighty-five children and teens have been killed by firearms, and between 1997 and 2009, hospitalizations from gunshot wounds increased from four thousand two hundred seventy to nearly eight thousand; and

WHEREAS, the student pledge against gun violence affords

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1 the opportunity for bringing together school boards and their  
2 respective school districts, as well as networks and resources  
3 throughout New Mexico, to build on existing efforts to address  
4 issues of gun violence; and

5 WHEREAS, since its inception, more than ten million  
6 students nationwide have signed the student pledge against gun  
7 violence; and

8 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe public school district and other  
9 state school districts have established a district-wide  
10 observance for October 22, 2015 that will give students the  
11 opportunity to pledge that they will never bring a gun to  
12 school, will never use a gun to settle a personal problem or  
13 dispute and will use their influence with their friends to keep  
14 them from using guns to settle disputes;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
16 OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to designate  
17 October 22, 2015 "Day of Concern About Young People and Gun  
18 Violence"; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
20 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of public  
21 education.