

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL
3 RETIREES.

4
5 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
6 retirees is an inclusive organization that promotes the
7 professional, economic, intellectual, social and physical
8 well-being of its members, encourages volunteer opportunities
9 in the community and provides advocacy for improved
10 retirement benefits for all educational retirees; and

11 WHEREAS, for more than seventy years, the New Mexico
12 association of educational retirees has been the only
13 organization in the state whose sole purpose is to promote
14 the quality of life of all retired educators in New Mexico;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
17 retirees has twenty-seven units statewide and a growing
18 membership of over six thousand four hundred retirees; and

19 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
20 retirees keeps members informed of all important matters
21 affecting them through newsletters, legislative updates, its
22 website, phone calls, emails and unit meetings; and

23 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
24 retirees community service program provides retired educators
25 the opportunity to volunteer services in schools, literary

1 training, tutoring, libraries, gardens, offices, churches,
2 prison programs, animal shelters, social service
3 transportation and care for family members; and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
5 retirees voluntary service program provides services to
6 individuals as well as public and private entities that
7 cannot provide the quantity or quality of services required
8 to meet the needs of the retiree population; and

9 WHEREAS, the voluntary services provided often meet or
10 exceed or augment the services and care required to maintain
11 the quality of life for a segment of the state's population;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, in 2014, retired educators volunteered one
14 hundred forty-seven thousand thirteen and nine-tenths hours,
15 calculated by the United States bureau of labor statistics at
16 twenty-two dollars fifty-five cents (\$22.55) per hour for a
17 monetary value of three million three hundred fifteen
18 thousand one hundred forty-five dollars (\$3,315,145); and

19 WHEREAS, in 2015, retired educators volunteered two
20 hundred nineteen thousand forty-four and five-tenths hours,
21 calculated by the United States bureau of labor statistics at
22 twenty-three dollars seven cents (\$23.07) per hour for a
23 monetary value of five million fifty-three thousand three
24 hundred forty-six dollars (\$5,053,346); and

25 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational

1 retirees works to protect the pension and health care
2 benefits of its members; and

3 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
4 retirees has a strong legislative team that monitors
5 legislation that affects educational retirees and has an
6 established "adopt a legislator" program to communicate
7 legislative positions to individual legislators; and

8 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
9 retirees participates in the legislative process as it
10 affects health care, retirement and cost-of-living
11 adjustments that affect older retirees; and

12 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
13 retirees also advocates for active educational employees and
14 for other consumer issues that may impact retirees; and

15 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
16 retirees advocates the interests of retirees by having an
17 association representative serve on the board of the
18 educational retirement board, the retiree health care
19 authority and other statewide committees;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico association of
22 educational retirees be recognized for its representation and
23 advocacy of educational retirees in New Mexico; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the president of the New Mexico association of

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educational retirees. _____