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HOUSE MEMORIAL 38

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson and Bob Wooley

A MEMORIAL

HONORING CANCER PATIENTS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES;
REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER;
DECLARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017, AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A
CANCER-FREE FUTURE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, ten thousand forty New Mexicans are expected to
be newly diagnosed with cancer in 2017; and

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

WHEREAS, sixteen years ago, in 2001, many of these voices
joined together to form a nationwide grassroots movement called
the American cancer society cancer action network, an
organization united and relentless in its mission to defeat

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1 cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, the American cancer society cancer action network
3 has been working with lawmakers to create hope for those
4 affected by cancer; and

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

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

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

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

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

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

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1 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it honor cancer
2 patients, cancer survivors and their families and remember
3 those who have been lost to cancer and that it declare Monday,
4 February 6, 2017, as "Create Hope for a Cancer-Free Future Day"
5 in the house of representatives; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the governor.

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