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HOUSE MEMORIAL 71

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

INTRODUCED BY

Sarah Maestas Barnes

A MEMORIAL

COMMEMORATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO'S COMBINED BACHELOR OF ARTS AND DOCTOR OF MEDICINE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, in 2006, the college of arts and sciences and the school of medicine of the university of New Mexico joined in a partnership to help address the state's physician shortage; and

WHEREAS, the combined bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine program presents New Mexico high school students with the opportunity to complete a rigorous four-year bachelor of arts curriculum that prepares them for four more rigorous years in medical school; and

WHEREAS, since its creation, the combined bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine program has focused on assembling a class of diverse students, including those from

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1 underrepresented populations and underserved communities
2 throughout the state, who are committed to practicing medicine
3 in New Mexico's medically underserved communities; and

4 WHEREAS, thanks to years of committed support from the New
5 Mexico legislature, the combined bachelor of arts and doctor of
6 medicine program has served three hundred thirty-three New
7 Mexico students representing eighty-six different communities;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, over the course of its existence, the combined
10 bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine program has
11 successfully recruited an average of sixty-six percent of its
12 students from underrepresented populations, many from
13 educationally and economically underserved areas of the state;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, with holistic standards that consider more than
16 test scores, and an extensive support system, the university of
17 New Mexico's combined bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine
18 program is recognized for providing students from underserved
19 and underrepresented communities with the opportunities and
20 resources they need to succeed; and

21 WHEREAS, counting the students who will graduate from the
22 medical school segment in June 2017, fifty-nine students will
23 have completed the combined bachelor of arts and doctor of
24 medicine program, going on to varied years of residency in
25 fields of family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine and

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1 psychiatry; and

2 WHEREAS, the first students who have completed their
3 residencies are now returning to work in the state; and

4 WHEREAS, for the past two years, the university of New
5 Mexico's combined bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine
6 program has been identified by *Excelencia in Education*, a
7 national program headquartered in Washington, D.C., for its
8 outstanding support of Latino student success; and

9 WHEREAS, the program's extensive recruitment efforts and
10 established relationships within communities around the state
11 help provide students with valuable mentoring and community
12 service resources, encouraging students to consider career
13 opportunities in all areas of health care;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the university
16 of New Mexico's combined bachelor of arts and doctor of
17 medicine program be recognized for ten years of academic
18 innovation and excellence and be commemorated for its
19 dedication to the health care needs of all New Mexicans; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the director of the university of New Mexico's
22 combined bachelor of arts and doctor of medicine program.