

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 14, 2018 "RUDOLFO ANAYA I LOVE TO READ  
3 DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4  
5 WHEREAS, reading is the most important skill a child  
6 will ever learn, as reading is the gateway to higher  
7 education and career success; and

8 WHEREAS, New Mexico's children need the support of  
9 caring adults to encourage them to read and to keep reading;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, books by and about New Mexico encourage a  
12 strong self-identity and help preserve unique New Mexican  
13 languages while strengthening important reading skills; and

14 WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya is a widely celebrated educator  
15 who truly believes that "leer es poder", meaning "reading is  
16 power", and whose efforts have brought critical attention to  
17 reading as the foundation of learning, which is essential to  
18 the growth and success of all children and their communities;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya is a native son of New Mexico  
21 with humble beginnings in Pastura in Guadalupe county, is  
22 today regarded as the father of Chicano literature and is the  
23 recipient of the national medal of arts, the national  
24 humanities medal, the American book award and numerous other  
25 accolades; and

1           WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya believes that all New Mexico  
2 children should be familiar with the folklore and traditions  
3 of their state's cultures, such as cuentos, dichos, plays,  
4 songs and Native American stories; and

5           WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya has written a children's book  
6 about the importance of education and the greatest lesson a  
7 child can learn: the value of knowing how to read; and

8           WHEREAS, the characters and northern New Mexico  
9 landscape in the book *Owl in a Straw Hat* come to life and  
10 resonate wonderfully with children and adults alike; and

11           WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya's efforts have brought critical  
12 attention to reading as the foundation of learning, which is  
13 essential to the growth and success of all children and their  
14 communities; and

15           WHEREAS, a reading program was established as a  
16 partnership between Rudolfo Anaya and the Christopher  
17 Montalvo memorial fund to inspire children to read more, and  
18 it is now in its third year; and

19           WHEREAS, the goal of this reading program is to  
20 encourage and recognize reading achievements by New Mexico  
21 children at home and in every New Mexico school;

22           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
23 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 14, 2018 be declared  
24 "Rudolfo Anaya I Love To Read Day" in the senate; and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all children in New Mexico

1 enjoy reading with a caring adult on this day to encourage  
2 them to read and keep on reading; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 transmitted to Rudolfo Anaya and the reading program  
5 established with the Christopher Montalvo memorial fund.           

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