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SENATE MEMORIAL 5

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 17, 2018 "BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DAY" IN THE
SENATE.

WHEREAS, mental and substance use disorders have a
powerful effect on the wellness and health of New Mexico's
individuals, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, prevention and early intervention strategies can
reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders in New
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, drug and alcohol use can lead to other chronic
health conditions, and the benefit of investing one dollar
(\$1.00) for prevention programs can yield two dollars (\$2.00)
to ten dollars (\$10.00) in savings in health costs, justice
costs, educational costs, lost productivity and other economic
and social costs; and

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1 WHEREAS, people have biological and psychological
2 characteristics that can make them vulnerable or resilient to
3 potential behavioral health problems; and

4 WHEREAS, people live in families, schools, communities,
5 workplaces and societies in which there are a variety of risk
6 and protective factors; and

7 WHEREAS, eight of the ten leading causes of death in New
8 Mexico are at least partially caused by the misuse of alcohol
9 or drugs; and

10 WHEREAS, over the past thirty years, New Mexico has
11 consistently had among the highest alcohol-related death rates
12 in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2015, New Mexico was ranked eighth in overdose
14 deaths, with Hispanic males at the highest risk of death from
15 drug overdoses; and

16 WHEREAS, there are preventive programs in New Mexico that
17 produce powerful results in classrooms and communities; and

18 WHEREAS, the peace, productivity, health and happiness
19 good behavior game is one such program in the federal substance
20 abuse and mental health services administration's national
21 registry of evidence-based programs and practices that has been
22 welcomed in schools and communities in New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, New Mexico's a dose of reality campaign educates
24 teens and parents about the serious risks of addiction and
25 overdose from prescription painkiller abuse; and

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