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SENATE MEMORIAL 65

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Kay Papen

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 11, 2019 "AUTISM DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a neurological disorder that interferes with the development of communication and social interactions skills; and

WHEREAS, one in every fifty-eight children born in 2017 will be later diagnosed as having an autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, autism affects people of all races and religions and all educational and economic levels; and

WHEREAS, autism is a lifelong condition that presents challenges to education, employment, housing and community development; and

WHEREAS, parents, professionals, self-advocates and volunteers devote countless hours to improve the quality of

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1 life of those affected by autism; and

2 WHEREAS, early intervention, evidence-based practices and  
3 proven support systems greatly improve the outcomes and reduce  
4 the lifelong costs of care of individuals with autism and their  
5 families; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico celebrates and recognizes the valuable  
7 contributions to its communities, businesses, technologies and  
8 cultures made by people with autism; and

9 WHEREAS, the many professionals, families, advocates and  
10 volunteers working to promote a greater understanding of autism  
11 to improve the quality of life of those affected by autism are  
12 to be commended;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
14 OF NEW MEXICO that February 11, 2019 be declared "Autism Day"  
15 in the senate; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the New Mexico affiliate of the autism society  
18 of America.