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HOUSE MEMORIAL 1

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1995

INTRODUCED BY

VINCE MARTINEZ

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING LOCAL LUPUS SUPPORT GROUPS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO
PROVIDE SUPPORT SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH LUPUS, TO
EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT LUPUS AND TO SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO THE
CAUSE AND CURE OF LUPUS.

WHEREAS, it is estimated that five hundred thousand
Americans have been diagnosed with lupus; and

WHEREAS, lupus can occur at any age, and in either sex,
although it occurs ten to fifteen times more frequently among
adult females than in males; and

WHEREAS, lupus is a chronic, autoimmune disease that loses

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1 its ability to tell the difference between foreign substances
2 and its own cells and tissues; and

3 WHEREAS, many lupus symptoms mimic those of other illnesses
4 and are sometimes vague, therefore making it difficult to
5 diagnose; and

6 WHEREAS, currently, there is no single laboratory test that
7 can determine whether a person has lupus or not; and

8 WHEREAS, in order to assist a physician in the diagnosis of
9 lupus, the American rheumatism association issued a list of
10 symptoms or signs that help distinguish lupus from other
11 diseases; and

12 WHEREAS, early treatment may decrease the chance of
13 permanent tissue or organ damage and reduce the time one must
14 remain on high doses of drugs; and

15 WHEREAS, the progress made in treatment and diagnosis
16 during the last decade has been greater than that made over the
17 past one hundred years; and

18 WHEREAS, it can be said that eighty to ninety percent of
19 people with lupus are much better today and deaths from lupus
20 are very uncommon;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the legislature
23 provide support to the New Mexico medical society and local
24 lupus support groups in their patient education and prevention

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1 programs, public awareness activities and advocacy for the
2 disease; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be sent
4 to the New Mexico medical society.

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