## A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 12, 2025 "NEW MEXICO YMCA YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, for more than one hundred years, the New Mexico alliance of YMCAs has strengthened families in New Mexico through programs that provide youth development, healthy living and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty-two thousand New Mexico residents benefit directly each year from the YMCA's extensive programs for all ages and abilities, including early childhood education and health and wellness programs for adults of all ages; and

WHEREAS, each year, more than six thousand New Mexico youth benefit from YMCA after-school enrichment, youth summer camps, developmental sports programming, teen centers and overnight camps; and

WHEREAS, for more than sixty years, the New Mexico YMCA youth and government program has promoted civic engagement by providing middle school and high school students across the state with an intensive learning opportunity to understand state government, including the work of the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico YMCA youth and government program culminates each year at two conferences in the state

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capitol, one in spring for high school students and one in fall for middle school students, where students engage in government processes by serving as members of model governmental branches, including acting as members of the executive branch, the house of representatives and the senate; as attorneys and judges in appellate court cases; as members of the news media; and as lobbyists; and

WHEREAS, a number of students in the YMCA youth and government program from various New Mexico communities are here today to meet with their elected representatives as a critical part of their learning experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 12, 2025 be declared "New Mexico YMCA Youth and Government Day" in the house of representatives in recognition of the New Mexico alliance of YMCAs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the chairs of the boards of directors of the YMCA of central New Mexico, the family YMCA of Los Alamos and the YMCA of El Paso, Texas.

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