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SENATE MEMORIAL 13

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia Nava

A MEMORIAL

**ENDORING THE NEW MEXICO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE AND NAMING
JANUARY 30, 2003 AS "YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DAY" IN THE SENATE.**

WHEREAS, engaged citizenry is declining with each generation as indicated by declining voting trends among all age groups, a widespread lack of knowledge about elected public officials and state issues and the eroding rate of volunteerism across the country; and

WHEREAS, the development of social responsibility among young people requires a long-term investment in the growth of the next generation of proactive and visionary leaders; and

WHEREAS, promoting youth and adult partnerships in public decision-making develops stronger intergenerational relationships and ownership of public policy; and

WHEREAS, youth civic engagement, participation and voice

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1 provide opportunities for youth to be decision-makers and
2 problem solvers for issues that affect their lives and
3 communities; and

4 WHEREAS, providing young people with the knowledge and
5 experience to influence and advocate for public policies that
6 reflect the value of young people's perspectives will encourage
7 their active and engaged involvement in the public service of
8 New Mexico;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
10 OF NEW MEXICO that it commend youth citizenry and regional and
11 community youth forums that highlight youth voice, youth
12 experience and youth knowledge to build a constituency of young
13 people; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate acknowledge and
15 commit itself to promoting youth civic engagement and
16 participation across the state; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate declare January 30,
18 2003 "Youth Civic Engagement Day" in the senate; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the children, youth and families department and
21 the New Mexico civic engagement initiative at the university of
22 New Mexico.