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SENATE MEMORIAL 15

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

HONORING CANCER PATIENTS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES,
REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER AND
DECLARING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2011, AS "PUTTING A FACE ON
CANCER DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, more than nine thousand New Mexicans were newly
diagnosed with cancer in 2010; and

WHEREAS, for over twenty-five years, the American cancer
society relay for life has been celebrating hope, including
hope for more than eleven thousand four hundred New Mexicans
annually, giving a voice to so many touched by cancer; and

WHEREAS, ten years ago, in 2001, many of these voices
joined together to form a nationwide grassroots movement called
the American cancer society cancer action network, an
organization united and relentless in pursuit of its mission to

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1 defeat cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges
3 associated with their diagnoses, including physical, emotional,
4 financial and day-to-day challenges; and

5 WHEREAS, people without access to quality, affordable
6 health care are significantly more likely to be diagnosed with
7 advanced-stage cancer, resulting in substantially worse health
8 outcomes for low-income and uninsured cancer patients; and

9 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is sixty-
10 eight percent, up from fifty percent twenty years ago, thanks
11 to cancer research as well as lifesaving cancer screening,
12 early detection and treatment programs; and

13 WHEREAS, it is essential to preserve the quality of life
14 and dignity of all people who have struggled with cancer and
15 who often feel isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

16 WHEREAS, volunteers and members of the American cancer
17 society cancer action network work diligently every day to
18 advocate on behalf of cancer patients, survivors and caregivers
19 so that one day cancer will be eliminated as a major public
20 health issue;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
22 OF NEW MEXICO that it honor cancer patients, survivors and
23 their families, remember those people who have been lost to
24 cancer and declare Thursday, February 3, 2011, as "Putting a
25 Face on Cancer Day" in the senate; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
2 transmitted to the governor, to the New Mexico office of the
3 American cancer society cancer action network and to all of the
4 members of the New Mexico senate.

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