A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 24, 2012 "DISABILITY RIGHTS AWARENESS DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; URGING THE GOVERNOR, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE TO RECOGNIZE THE DIGNITY AND VALUE OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES AND TO BE AWARE OF BULLYING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONCERNS THAT AFFECT THE DISABLED.

WHEREAS, thousands of New Mexicans live with disabilities and they are recognized as productive and valuable members of the state; and

WHEREAS, many people living with disabilities desire to be more productive and independent in their lives and recognize that gaining meaningful employment is a means to achieving independence and dignity; and

WHEREAS, bullying and domestic violence prevention are important issues among people living with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, bullying and domestic violence awareness have become important issues among the residents of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, according to the mission statement of the university of New Mexico center for development and disability, the full inclusion of individuals living with disabilities and their families into their communities involves engaging these individuals in making life choices, partnering with communities to build resources and improving systems of care; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the residents of New Mexico to have a state government and legislature that is informed on the issues faced by those in the disabled community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor, members of the executive branch and members of the house of representatives be urged to recognize the value and dignity of those people living with disabilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all residents of New Mexico be urged to become aware of the issues of bullying and domestic violence that affect the residents of New Mexico who are living with disabilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that January 24, 2012 be declared "Disability Rights Awareness Day" in the house of representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, all cabinet secretaries and the executive director of the New Mexico developmental disabilities planning council.