

1 A MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013, AS "NEW MEXICO  
3 SCHOOL NUTRITION DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4  
5 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs provided through the  
6 national school lunch program and school breakfast program  
7 have afforded millions of healthy and nutritious meals to  
8 school children throughout New Mexico for more than sixty  
9 years; and

10 WHEREAS, the school nutrition programs serve nutritious,  
11 low-cost or free meals to students in New Mexico schools; and

12 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs not only feed hungry  
13 children and support family well-being, they also act as  
14 "economic stabilizers" during economic downturns; and

15 WHEREAS, many children consume at least half of their  
16 daily calories at school, and for many children, food served  
17 at school may be the only food they regularly eat; and

18 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs play an important  
19 role in helping to ensure that every student in New Mexico  
20 starts school ready to learn; and

21 WHEREAS, a well-fed and nourished child is an eager and  
22 attentive student; and

23 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs in New Mexico have  
24 demonstrated a commitment to promote children's health,  
25 well-being and educational excellence, the primary goals of

1 student success; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked number one nationally in  
3 students participating in school breakfast programs and has  
4 been ranked number one five times within the last six years  
5 and has ranked in the top ten in the last ten years; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico public, private and bureau of Indian  
7 affairs school districts serve more than two hundred  
8 sixty-six thousand lunches and one hundred forty-five  
9 thousand breakfast meals each school day; and

10 WHEREAS, currently more than fifty New Mexico farmers  
11 sell to fifty-three school districts serving two hundred  
12 thirty-four thousand school children fruits and vegetables  
13 grown in New Mexico, enhancing the diets and health of school  
14 children and helping to mitigate the childhood obesity trend;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, an investment in children's health will help  
17 stop the rise in childhood obesity in New Mexico, where  
18 thirty-two percent of children are overweight or obese; and

19 WHEREAS, a healthier population will help to save  
20 New Mexico an additional three hundred twenty-four million  
21 dollars (\$324,000,000) in obesity-related health care  
22 expenses and an additional one billion two hundred million  
23 dollars (\$1,200,000,000) for diabetes-related health care  
24 expenses;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE

1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico invest in its children,  
2 economy and New Mexico's future; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Wednesday, February 6, 2013,  
4 be declared "New Mexico School Nutrition Day" in the senate.==

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