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HOUSE MEMORIAL 26

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

Jimmie C. Hall

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013, AS "NEW MEXICO SCHOOL NUTRITION DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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

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

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

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

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1 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs play an important role
2 in helping to ensure that every student in New Mexico starts
3 school ready to learn; and

4 WHEREAS, a well-fed and nourished child is an eager and
5 attentive student; and

6 WHEREAS, school nutrition programs in New Mexico have
7 demonstrated a commitment to promote children's health,
8 well-being and educational excellence, the primary goals of
9 student success; and

10 WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked number one nationally in
11 students participating in school breakfast programs and has
12 been ranked number one five times within the last six years and
13 has ranked in the top ten in the last ten years; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico public, private and bureau of Indian
15 affairs school districts serve more than two hundred sixty-six
16 thousand lunches and one hundred forty-five thousand breakfast
17 meals each school day; and

18 WHEREAS, currently more than fifty New Mexico farmers sell
19 to fifty-three school districts serving two hundred thirty-four
20 thousand school children fruits and vegetables grown in New
21 Mexico, enhancing the diets and health of school children and
22 helping to mitigate the childhood obesity trend; and

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

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