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A MEMORIAL

COMMEMORATING FEBRUARY 25, 2015 AS "I HEART CAREGIVERS DAY"  
IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, the number of residents of New Mexico who are  
eighty-five years of age or older and most likely to need  
caregiving assistance is projected to reach over seventy-five  
thousand in 2030; and

WHEREAS, most older adults and individuals with chronic  
diseases or physical challenges would not be able to remain  
at home without the help of unpaid family caregivers; and

WHEREAS, each year, an estimated four hundred nineteen  
thousand adults in the state provide unpaid family  
caregiving, which equates to an estimated two hundred  
seventy-four million hours a year and an estimated value of  
more than three billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000); and

WHEREAS, unpaid family caregivers face many challenges  
in providing care, such as managing financial resources,  
managing medications, providing wound and other health care  
assistance and maintaining the home; and

WHEREAS, working family caregivers may have to make  
workplace accommodations or even leave the work force to care  
for a family member; and

WHEREAS, the aging and long-term services department is  
leading an effort to develop a family caregiver state plan;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, unpaid family caregivers need access to  
3 resources and deserve recognition for their work;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 25, 2015 be commemorated as  
6 "I Heart Caregivers Day" in the senate; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
8 transmitted to the secretary of aging and long-term services  
9 and the director of AARP New Mexico. \_\_\_\_\_

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