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SENATE MEMORIAL 47

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF
THE AUSCHWITZ CONCENTRATION CAMP.

WHEREAS, January 27, 2015 marked the seventieth
anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration
camp, set up in 1940 by occupying Nazi forces; and

WHEREAS, between 1940 and 1945, over one million people,
mostly Jewish, were killed at Auschwitz; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Jews, many Gypsies, Russians and
Poles from Nazi-occupied Europe were transported to Auschwitz
on overcrowded cattle trains; and

WHEREAS, upon arriving at Auschwitz, those capable of hard
work were separated from the others; and

WHEREAS, the elderly and children were sent to the gas
chambers, a process known as "selection"; and

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1 WHEREAS, survivors of the "selection" were stripped of
2 their clothes, belongings and identity, tattooed with a number
3 on their arms and dressed in striped uniforms; and

4 WHEREAS, On January 27, 1945, Red Army soldiers arrived at
5 Auschwitz, where they discovered seven thousand emaciated
6 inmates who had been left behind by fleeing Nazis; and

7 WHEREAS, the horror of the atrocities carried out at the
8 Auschwitz concentration camp shocked the world; and

9 WHEREAS, on the seventieth anniversary of the liberation,
10 world leaders joined approximately three hundred Auschwitz
11 Holocaust survivors to pay tribute to those who had died and to
12 urge the world to never again be bystanders to atrocities like
13 those committed at Auschwitz;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
15 OF NEW MEXICO that the bravery of Holocaust survivors, and the
16 memory of those who died, be honored on the seventieth
17 anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration
18 camp; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the desire of the senate
20 that the world never again allow atrocities like those of the
21 Holocaust to occur; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the synagogues of New Mexico.