

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING CANCER PATIENTS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES;
3 REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER;
4 DECLARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016, AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A
5 CANCER-FREE WORLD DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
6

7 WHEREAS, nine thousand seven hundred fifty New Mexicans
8 are expected to be newly diagnosed with cancer in 2016; and

9 WHEREAS, for over thirty years, the American cancer
10 society relay for life has been celebrating hope, with more
11 than eleven thousand four hundred New Mexicans participating
12 annually, giving a voice to so many touched by cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, fifteen years ago, in 2001, many of these
14 voices joined together to form a nationwide grassroots
15 movement called the American cancer society cancer action
16 network, an organization united and relentless in its mission
17 to defeat cancer by working with lawmakers to create hope for
18 those affected by cancer; and

19 WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges
20 associated with their diagnoses, including physical,
21 emotional, financial and day-to-day challenges; and

22 WHEREAS, people without access to quality, affordable
23 health care are significantly more likely to be diagnosed
24 with advanced-stage cancer, resulting in significantly worse
25 health outcomes for low-income and uninsured cancer patients;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is
3 sixty-nine percent, up from forty-nine percent nearly forty
4 years ago thanks to cancer research as well as lifesaving
5 cancer prevention, screening, early detection and treatment
6 programs; and

7 WHEREAS, it is essential to preserve the quality of life
8 and dignity of all people who have struggled with cancer and
9 who often feel isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

10 WHEREAS, tobacco use remains the leading preventable
11 cause of death, causing two thousand six hundred deaths in
12 New Mexico annually from sixteen different types of cancer,
13 heart attacks and strokes; and

14 WHEREAS, volunteers and members of the American cancer
15 society cancer action network work diligently every day to
16 advocate on behalf of cancer patients, survivors and
17 caregivers so that, one day, cancer will be eliminated as a
18 major public health issue;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
20 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it honor
21 cancer patients, cancer survivors and their families and
22 remember those who have been lost to cancer and that it
23 declare Monday, February 8, 2016, as "Create Hope for a
24 Cancer-Free World Day" in the house of representatives; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

1 transmitted to the governor and members of the house of
2 representatives.

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