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HOUSE MEMORIAL 45

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Tomás E. Salazar

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL RETIREES.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational retirees is an inclusive organization that promotes the professional, economic, intellectual, social and physical well-being of its members, encourages volunteer opportunities in the community and provides advocacy for improved retirement benefits for all educational retirees; and

WHEREAS, for more than seventy years, the New Mexico association of educational retirees has been the only organization in the state whose sole purpose is to promote the quality of life of all retired educators in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational retirees has twenty-seven units statewide and a growing membership of over six thousand four hundred retirees; and

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1 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
2 retirees keeps members informed of all important matters
3 affecting them through newsletters, legislative updates, its
4 website, phone calls, emails and unit meetings; and

5 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
6 retirees community service program provides retired educators
7 the opportunity to volunteer services in schools, literary
8 training, tutoring, libraries, gardens, offices, churches,
9 prison programs, animal shelters, social service transportation
10 and care for family members; and

11 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
12 retirees voluntary service program provides services to
13 individuals as well as public and private entities that cannot
14 provide the quantity or quality of services required to meet
15 the needs of the retiree population; and

16 WHEREAS, the voluntary services provided often meet or
17 exceed or augment the services and care required to maintain
18 the quality of life for a segment of the state's population;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, in 2014, retired educators volunteered one
21 hundred forty-seven thousand thirteen and nine-tenths hours,
22 calculated by the United States bureau of labor statistics at
23 twenty-two dollars fifty-five cents (\$22.55) per hour for a
24 monetary value of three million three hundred fifteen thousand
25 one hundred forty-five dollars (\$3,315,145); and

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1 WHEREAS, in 2015, retired educators volunteered two
2 hundred nineteen thousand forty-four and five-tenths hours,
3 calculated by the United States bureau of labor statistics at
4 twenty-three dollars seven cents (\$23.07) per hour for a
5 monetary value of five million fifty-three thousand three
6 hundred forty-six dollars (\$5,053,346); and

7 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
8 retirees works to protect the pension and health care benefits
9 of its members; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
11 retirees has a strong legislative team that monitors
12 legislation that affects educational retirees and has an
13 established "adopt a legislator" program to communicate
14 legislative positions to individual legislators; and

15 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
16 retirees participates in the legislative process as it affects
17 health care, retirement and cost-of-living adjustments that
18 affect older retirees; and

19 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
20 retirees also advocates for active educational employees and
21 for other consumer issues that may impact retirees; and

22 WHEREAS, the New Mexico association of educational
23 retirees advocates the interests of retirees by having an
24 association representative serve on the board of the
25 educational retirement board, the retiree health care authority

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1 and other statewide committees;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico
4 association of educational retirees be recognized for its
5 representation and advocacy of educational retirees in New
6 Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
8 transmitted to the president of the New Mexico association of
9 educational retirees.