

1 A MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING JANUARY 2017 AS "NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH" IN THE
3 SENATE.

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5 WHEREAS, in 2002, the Harvard T. H. Chan school of
6 public health and MENTOR: the national mentoring
7 partnership, created national mentoring month; and

8 WHEREAS, the goals of national mentoring month are to
9 raise awareness of mentoring, recruit individuals to mentor
10 and encourage organizations to engage and integrate quality
11 mentoring into their efforts; and

12 WHEREAS, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who
13 devotes time to a young person to help that young person
14 discover personal strength and achieve his or her potential
15 through a structured and trusting relationship; and

16 WHEREAS, quality mentoring encourages positive choices,
17 promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and
18 introduces young people to new ideas; and

19 WHEREAS, mentoring programs have been shown to be
20 effective in combating school violence and discipline
21 problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy; and

22 WHEREAS, research shows that young people who are at
23 risk for not completing high school but who had a mentor were
24 fifty-five percent more likely to be enrolled in college,
25 eighty-one percent more likely to report participating

1 regularly in sports or extracurricular activities, more than
2 twice as likely to say that they held a leadership position
3 in a club or on a sports team and seventy-eight percent more
4 likely to volunteer regularly in their communities; and

5 WHEREAS, youth development experts agree that mentoring
6 is critical to social, emotional and cognitive development,
7 helping youth navigate the path to adulthood more
8 successfully; and

9 WHEREAS, mentors help young people set career goals and
10 use their personal contacts to help young people meet
11 industry professionals and find jobs; and

12 WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven cost-effective investment
13 whereby, for every one dollar (\$1.00) invested, there is a
14 three-dollar (\$3.00) return to society; and

15 WHEREAS, all of these benefits serve to link youth to
16 economic opportunity while also strengthening the fiber of
17 their communities;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
19 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the month of January 2017 be
20 proclaimed "National Mentoring Month" in the senate; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of New Mexico be
22 encouraged to recognize the importance of mentoring, to look
23 for opportunities to serve as mentors in their communities and
24 to observe national mentoring month with appropriate
25 activities and programs.