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SENATE MEMORIAL 9

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

William P. Soules

A MEMORIAL

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, quality mentoring encourages positive choices,

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1 promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and
2 introduces young people to new ideas; and

3 WHEREAS, mentoring programs have been shown to be
4 effective in combating school violence and discipline problems,
5 substance abuse, incarceration and truancy; and

6 WHEREAS, research shows that young people who are at risk
7 for not completing high school but who had a mentor were fifty-
8 five percent more likely to be enrolled in college, eighty-one
9 percent more likely to report participating regularly in sports
10 or extracurricular activities, more than twice as likely to say
11 that they held a leadership position in a club or on a sports
12 team and seventy-eight percent more likely to volunteer
13 regularly in their communities; and

14 WHEREAS, youth development experts agree that mentoring is
15 critical to social, emotional and cognitive development,
16 helping youth navigate the path to adulthood more successfully;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, mentors help young people set career goals and
19 use their personal contacts to help young people meet industry
20 professionals and find jobs; and

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

24 WHEREAS, all of these benefits serve to link youth to
25 economic opportunity while also strengthening the fiber of

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1 their communities;

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

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of New Mexico be
6 encouraged to recognize the importance of mentoring, to look
7 for opportunities to serve as mentors in their communities and
8 to observe national mentoring month with appropriate activities
9 and programs.

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