

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING JANUARY 17, 2018 "BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DAY" IN THE
3 SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, mental and substance use disorders have a
6 powerful effect on the wellness and health of New Mexico's
7 individuals, families and communities; and

8 WHEREAS, prevention and early intervention strategies
9 can reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders
10 in New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, drug and alcohol use can lead to other chronic
12 health conditions, and the benefit of investing one dollar
13 (\$1.00) for prevention programs can yield two dollars (\$2.00)
14 to ten dollars (\$10.00) in savings in health costs, justice
15 costs, educational costs, lost productivity and other
16 economic and social costs; and

17 WHEREAS, people have biological and psychological
18 characteristics that can make them vulnerable or resilient to
19 potential behavioral health problems; and

20 WHEREAS, people live in families, schools, communities,
21 workplaces and societies in which there are a variety of risk
22 and protective factors; and

23 WHEREAS, eight of the ten leading causes of death in
24 New Mexico are at least partially caused by the misuse of
25 alcohol or drugs; and

1 WHEREAS, over the past thirty years, New Mexico has
2 consistently had among the highest alcohol-related death
3 rates in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2015, New Mexico was ranked eighth in
5 overdose deaths, with Hispanic males at the highest risk of
6 death from drug overdoses; and

7 WHEREAS, there are preventive programs in New Mexico
8 that produce powerful results in classrooms and communities;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the peace, productivity, health and happiness
11 good behavior game is one such program in the federal
12 substance abuse and mental health services administration's
13 national registry of evidence-based programs and practices
14 that has been welcomed in schools and communities in
15 New Mexico; and

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico's a dose of reality campaign
17 educates teens and parents about the serious risks of
18 addiction and overdose from prescription painkiller abuse;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, New Mexico's prevention programs assess needs;
21 build capacity; and plan, implement and evaluate culturally
22 competent prevention programs and activities; and

23 WHEREAS, hope and resilience are essential for
24 prevention of and recovery from behavioral health conditions;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, New Mexico's diverse community coalitions and
2 prevention advocates throughout the state are dedicated to
3 improving community health and minimizing the risk of
4 substance misuse;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 17, 2018 be declared
7 "Behavioral Health Day" in the senate in honor of the many
8 people who devote themselves to public policymaking on behalf
9 of the thousands of New Mexicans who live with behavioral
10 health disorders; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the theme for "Behavioral
12 Health Day" be "behavioral health in New Mexico – prevention
13 works!"; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 transmitted to the secretary of human services and the
16 director of the interagency behavioral health purchasing
17 collaborative.

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