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HOUSE MEMORIAL 26

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

A MEMORIAL

HONORING CANCER PATIENTS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES;
REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER; AND
DECLARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014, AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A
CANCER-FREE WORLD DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, more than ten thousand ninety New Mexicans were
newly diagnosed with cancer in 2013; and

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

WHEREAS, thirteen years ago, in 2001, many of these voices
joined together to form a nationwide grassroots movement called
the American cancer society cancer action network, an
organization united and relentless in pursuit of its mission to

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1 defeat cancer by working with lawmakers to create hope for
2 those affected by cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges
4 associated with their diagnoses, including physical, emotional,
5 financial and day-to-day challenges; and

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

10 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is sixty-
11 eight percent, up from forty-nine percent nearly forty years
12 ago, thanks to cancer research as well as lifesaving cancer
13 prevention, screening, early detection and treatment programs;
14 and

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

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

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it honor cancer
25 patients, survivors and their families and remember those who

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1 have been lost to cancer and declare Monday, February 10, 2014,
2 as "Create Hope for a Cancer-Free World Day" in the house of
3 representatives; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor and to all members of the New
6 Mexico house of representatives.

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