## A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND TO THE OVERALL WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN IN NEW MEXICO; DECLARING JANUARY 26, 2018 "CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, in 1986, the children's trust fund was created in New Mexico state statute; and

WHEREAS, from the beginning, the intent of the legislature was that the fund be a statewide resource to advocate for, and educate about, the prevention of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the fund also provides the means to develop innovative children's projects and programs that address one or more of the following:

- A. preventing abuse and neglect of children;
- B. providing medical, psychological and other appropriate treatment for children who are victims of abuse or neglect; and
- C. developing community-based services aimed at the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the children's trust fund is governed by a thirteen-member appointed board of trustees, but only five active trustees are currently serving; and

WHEREAS, the children's trust fund is administered by the children, youth and families department; and

WHEREAS, the children's trust fund provides financial support to several community-based agencies that run programs to help prevent child abuse; and

WHEREAS, some of the available funds go unused each year because of a lack of awareness of available fund resources; and

WHEREAS, the children's trust fund board of trustees and the children, youth and families department would like for all available funds to be spent annually to help children; and

WHEREAS, the children's trust fund board of trustees and the children, youth and families department staff are working diligently to increase awareness of the children's trust fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the critical work of children, youth and families department staff and the children's trust fund board of trustees on behalf of New Mexico children be recognized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that January 26, 2018 be declared "Children's Trust Fund Day" in the house of representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and families and the board of trustees of the children's trust fund.\_\_\_\_\_\_ HM 35