

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF MEDIATION FOR THE ELDER  
3 POPULATION.

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5 WHEREAS, mediation is a voluntary and confidential  
6 process in which a neutral third party helps facilitate  
7 discussion of difficult issues and negotiate agreements; and

8 WHEREAS, elders face unique challenges often involving  
9 loss of identity, housing and friends and family; and

10 WHEREAS, elders may also experience increased challenges  
11 in managing finances and health-related affairs; and

12 WHEREAS, these challenges, coupled with unresolved  
13 family issues, can cause deeply painful conflicts between  
14 elders and their families; and

15 WHEREAS, a mediator, skilled in family facilitation,  
16 conflict resolution and negotiated consensus, can offer a  
17 collaborative and cost-effective alternative to litigation or  
18 legal guardianship for resolving issues unique to the elder  
19 population;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize the importance of  
22 mediation as a critical tool to preserve the health and  
23 well-being of New Mexico's elders; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the New Mexico elder mediation network. \_\_\_\_\_