

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 1, 2019 "FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION, ADVOCACY  
3 AND AWARENESS DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4  
5 WHEREAS, hundreds of New Mexicans serve as foster care  
6 parents to children who are removed from their homes, through  
7 no fault of their own, because the homes are not safe places  
8 for them; and

9 WHEREAS, foster care parents provide unconditional love,  
10 care and commitment to displaced children; and

11 WHEREAS, according to the children, youth and families  
12 department, in fiscal year 2018, there were two thousand five  
13 hundred thirty-one children in foster care; and

14 WHEREAS, foster care parents participated in three  
15 hundred eleven finalized adoptions; and

16 WHEREAS, foster care parents are ready to receive a  
17 child at a moment's notice, without any previous knowledge or  
18 information about the child or for how long the child will  
19 need their care; and

20 WHEREAS, foster care parents exemplify selflessness and  
21 community by building positive connections and experiences for  
22 foster care children by doing their best to provide for the  
23 stability and security of those children; and

24 WHEREAS, foster care parents open their homes and their  
25 hearts to children who need love and support, while

1 respecting and fostering connections to the children's  
2 culture, religion and community; and

3 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children in foster  
4 care realize they are not alone and that others care for  
5 them; and

6 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children build  
7 self-esteem and confidence and provide structure that will  
8 contribute to healthy and engaging lives; and

9 WHEREAS, foster care parents have the joy and privilege  
10 of parenting and learning from children who did not decide to  
11 be placed under the state's care, but like all children, have  
12 so much to offer;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 1, 2019 be declared  
15 "Foster Parent Appreciation, Advocacy and Awareness Day" in  
16 the senate; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and  
19 families. \_\_\_\_\_

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