

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING NOVEMBER 1, 2007 "READ TO A CHILD DAY".

3
4 WHEREAS, a team of fourth- and fifth-grade students at
5 La Union elementary school in the Gadsden independent school
6 district conducted a community literacy initiative and, from
7 what they learned, they wanted to give every third-grade
8 student in New Mexico a book; and

9 WHEREAS, this team of students began research on New
10 Mexico authors, found more than forty authors, developed a
11 rating rubric and narrowed their list down to fifteen; and

12 WHEREAS, the students contacted a group of adults who
13 were representative of the state and invited them to be part
14 of a selection committee using their rubric to narrow the
15 list of books to six; and

16 WHEREAS, the students invited the governor to make the
17 final decision on a book, and he selected "Santero's Miracle"
18 by Rudolfo Anaya, with a copy to be given to each third-grade
19 student; and

20 WHEREAS, the book will be accompanied by a web-based
21 teacher curriculum and a hard copy of a parent curriculum
22 that will be tied to the New Mexico curriculum standards; and

23 WHEREAS, the governor selected November 1, 2007 to
24 distribute the books to every third-grade student; and

25 WHEREAS, November 1 marks national family literacy day

1 and approximately eight thousand literacy programs will hold
2 readings, workshops and family activities across the country;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, reading aloud is a time-honored tradition for
5 parents, caregivers and children, especially in a child's
6 formative years; and

7 WHEREAS, reading has a lifelong impact on a child's
8 learning experiences, developmental progress and even social
9 interaction;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that November 1, 2007 be declared "Read to
12 a Child Day" to celebrate the importance of reading; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the secretary of public education and the
15 governor. _____

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