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SENATE MEMORIAL 9

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Dede Feldman

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT FEBRUARY 21, 2011 BE DECLARED "AUTISM DAY" IN THE SENATE AND THAT THE NEW MEXICO CHAPTER OF THE AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA BE RECOGNIZED FOR ITS WORK AND ADVOCACY.

WHEREAS, one of every one hundred ten children born this year will be later diagnosed as having autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder equally affects people of all races and religions and all educational and economic levels; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a lifelong condition that presents challenges to education, employment, housing and community participation; and

WHEREAS, parents, professionals and volunteers devote countless hours to improving the quality of life of individuals

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1 who have autism spectrum disorders; and

2 WHEREAS, early intervention, evidence-based practices and
3 proven supports greatly improve the outcomes and reduce the
4 lifelong costs of care of people who have autism spectrum
5 disorder; and

6 WHEREAS, the autism society of America was founded in
7 1965, and the New Mexico autism society was founded in 1968,
8 whose mission is to improve the lives of all persons affected
9 by autism through advocacy, education, support services and the
10 promotion of research; and

11 WHEREAS, the New Mexico autism society advocates and works
12 for better state and federal legislation to assist individuals
13 with autism and their families; and

14 WHEREAS, the state recognizes the valuable contributions
15 to its communities, businesses, technologies and cultures made
16 by people with autism;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
18 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico chapter of the autism society
19 of America be recognized and that February 21, 2011 be declared
20 "Autism Day" in the senate.