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SENATE MEMORIAL 11

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

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 26, 2011 "CHAVES COUNTY EVERY 15 MINUTES PROGRAM DAY" IN THE NEW MEXICO SENATE.

WHEREAS, in the United States, someone is killed in a drunk-driving accident every fifteen minutes; and

WHEREAS, the Chaves county DWI program and Chaves county youth awareness group work together each year to help put on the Chaves county every 15 minutes program for the benefit of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program mission statement is "working together selflessly in an effort to educate our youth and community on the dangers of drinking and driving and underage drinking", and the motto is "I make a difference and saving lives is our mission"; and

WHEREAS, the Chaves county youth awareness group is a

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1 nonprofit organization, composed entirely of volunteers, that
2 conducts the Chaves county every 15 minutes program, which is
3 an intense and emotional two-day, thirty-hour program designed
4 to educate students and families about the dangers of underage
5 drinking and of drinking and driving; and

6 WHEREAS, the program is intended to be conducted at or
7 near the time of high school proms and graduations because
8 statistics show that underage drinking increases with these two
9 annual events; and

10 WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program is an
11 important addition to the Chaves county DWI program, and it
12 reaches every student in a targeted high school, along with
13 staff and family members and others in the community; and

14 WHEREAS, the goal of the Chaves county every 15 minutes
15 program is to have an impact on every family, home and business
16 in Chaves county and in surrounding areas in order to make a
17 difference in the lives of youths and families; and

18 WHEREAS, the Chaves county youth awareness group initially
19 started with volunteers from fire, police and emergency medical
20 services personnel but has grown to include people from all
21 walks of life; and

22 WHEREAS, each year, the Chaves county youth awareness
23 group has expanded the program, both in scale and intensity,
24 with a complete focus on saving lives, especially the lives of
25 young people, who are the future; and

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1 WHEREAS, one life saved is all it takes to be successful;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the program's success have been the result of the
4 efforts of dedicated volunteers, donations from local
5 businesses and individuals and funding from the Chaves county
6 DWI program, all of which have been substantial; and

7 WHEREAS, donations by local businesses, special
8 individuals and the Chaves county DWI program have made it
9 possible to put on this great program; and

10 WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program
11 started in April 1999, when the first event was held at Roswell
12 high school, and has expanded in the last eleven years to
13 include every school district in Chaves county; and

14 WHEREAS, this year alone, the program will reach one
15 thousand two hundred students;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
17 OF NEW MEXICO that January 26, 2011 be declared "Chaves County
18 Every 15 Minutes Program Day" in the New Mexico senate; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the Chaves county DWI program and the Chaves
21 county youth awareness group.