A MEMORIAL

DECLARING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18 THROUGH FEBRUARY 25, 2012 "NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK" IN THE SENATE.

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WHEREAS, entrepreneurship is vital to New Mexico's growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, most of the new jobs created in New Mexico and the United States in the past decade have come from the creative efforts of entrepreneurs and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States department of 10 commerce, more than twenty-three thousand people become 11 independent entrepreneurs daily, joining the more than twenty 12 million self-employed that make up more than seventy-five 13 percent of the nation's twenty million-plus business firms 14 15 nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the partnership for 21st century skills identified entrepreneurial literacy skills as one of the twenty-first century's content areas critical to success in 18 communities and workplaces; and

20 WHEREAS, the national governors association encourages connecting education to economic growth industries, 21 recognizing that entrepreneurship and small business creation 22 are the growth engines of any economy; and 23

WHEREAS, a broad coalition of partner organizations in 24 New Mexico have joined under the umbrella of the New Mexico 25

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1 small business development center and the New Mexico youth 2 entrepreneurship network to provide a variety of programs 3 focusing on student entrepreneurial development and competitive events, such as the governor's youth 4 entrepreneurship annual statewide business plan competition, 5 6 supported by the economic development department, the workforce solutions department, the higher education 7 8 department, the public education department, the small 9 business administration, chambers of commerce and other 10 notable organizations; and

WHEREAS, throughout the United States, entities like the 11 New Mexico small business development center and the 12 New Mexico youth entrepreneurship network are engaged in 13 enhancing entrepreneurial opportunities through collaboration 14 15 and cooperation with the national consortium for entrepreneurship education; and 16

WHEREAS, encouraging youth to be excited about entrepreneurship, and working to expand the knowledge, skills 18 and attitudes of New Mexico's youth and adults to be 20 successful entrepreneurs, are crucial to the long-term growth of local communities, the state and the nation; and

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WHEREAS, the United States house of representatives 22 resolved to recognize an annual "National Entrepreneurship 23 Week" that, this year, runs from February 18 through 24 February 25; and 25

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WHEREAS, "National Entrepreneurship Week" provides an 1 2 opportunity to focus on the innovative ways in which 3 entrepreneurship education can bring together the core academic, technical and problem-solving skills essential for 4 5 future entrepreneurs and successful workers in future 6 workplaces; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 7 8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the week of February 18 through February 25, 2012 be declared "National Entrepreneurship 9 10 Week" in the senate; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be 11 transmitted to the statewide director of the New Mexico small 12 business development center for distribution to the supporters 13 and partners of the New Mexico youth entrepreneurship 14 15 network. SM 79 Page 3 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25