

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING "JADEN'S WAY" TO SAFE, HIGH-QUALITY HEALTH CARE
3 AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DENIED CARE AND
4 SUPPORTS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR PHYSICAL AND BEHAVIORAL
5 CONDITIONS.

6
7 WHEREAS, there are individuals in New Mexico whose
8 combination of physical and behavioral health conditions
9 makes it difficult for them to find the health care and the
10 social supports that they desperately need; and

11 WHEREAS, the families of these individuals often feel
12 helpless as they confront enormous challenges in providing
13 round-the-clock care in dangerous and exhausting
14 circumstances; and

15 WHEREAS, an example of an individual with a need for
16 acute care and supports is Jaden Fawver, a young New Mexican
17 who lived with multiple, complex physical and behavioral
18 conditions, including medical fragility, Down syndrome,
19 bipolar affective disorder, disruptive behavior, oppositional
20 defiant disorder and an autism spectrum condition called
21 pervasive developmental disorders; and

22 WHEREAS, Jaden's conditions presented great challenges
23 to his family and caregivers, as he presented with intense
24 aggression and other behaviors dangerous to himself and his
25 family and caregivers; and

1 WHEREAS, when Jaden needed medical care, many facilities
2 could not handle his severe medical conditions; and

3 WHEREAS, the state's public physical and behavioral
4 health care management and payment infrastructure was at
5 times unresponsive to Jaden's and his family's needs; and

6 WHEREAS, the lack of health care and respite care left
7 Jaden's family with nowhere to turn to address Jaden's or
8 their own needs; and

9 WHEREAS, tragically, Jaden Fawver passed away on
10 January 7, 2012 at the age of ten years; and

11 WHEREAS, Jaden's story of struggling for essential care
12 is not the only tragic story of its kind taking place in New
13 Mexico;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the senate recognize the need for
16 safe and high-quality health care and social supports for
17 individuals whose physical and behavioral care needs present
18 acute challenges; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the quest for better care
20 and supports for high-need individuals and their families be
21 known as "Jaden's Way", in honor of Jaden Fawver, his
22 parents, Jessica and Josh Baumeister, and the rest of Jaden's
23 family; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to Jessica and Josh Baumeister, the governor, the

