

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING AND HONORING GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN
3 AND THE SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADDRESS THE UNIQUE
4 CHALLENGES THAT FACE GRANDPARENTS; DECLARING JANUARY 28, 2014
5 "GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN DAY" IN THE SENATE.

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7 WHEREAS, grandparents hold an essential role in
8 maintaining strong familial, cultural and community
9 connections; and

10 WHEREAS, grandparents provide wisdom, insight and
11 guidance to their grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, grandparents instill in their grandchildren a
13 sense of place and identity; and

14 WHEREAS, the love of grandparents for their
15 grandchildren is unconditional; and

16 WHEREAS, grandparents in New Mexico are increasingly
17 undertaking the challenges and joys of raising their
18 grandchildren; and

19 WHEREAS, grandparents who are stepping up to care for
20 and embrace their "children's children", giving up retirement
21 and their "golden years" to once again raise children, are
22 deserving of recognition and appreciation; and

23 WHEREAS, Las Cumbres community services, inc., is an
24 organization that provides ongoing services for grandparents
25 through an active support group and through statewide

1 conferences to address the issues and struggles being faced
2 by grandparents raising grandchildren; and

3 WHEREAS, support organizations such as Las Cumbres
4 community services, inc., should be commended for their
5 important work because the task of raising grandchildren is
6 not without its challenges; and

7 WHEREAS, many grandparents raising grandchildren live on
8 small, fixed retirement incomes; and

9 WHEREAS, grandparents raising grandchildren are often
10 confronted with financial hardship and legal obstacles; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico communities continue to struggle
12 with drug addiction, domestic violence, unemployment,
13 poverty, teen births and other challenging social issues that
14 often require grandparents to undertake a primary parenting
15 role; and

16 WHEREAS, the challenges facing grandparents raising
17 grandchildren may be exacerbated when caring for children who
18 have experienced trauma or who are grieving the absence of a
19 parent; and

20 WHEREAS, despite these tremendous challenges,
21 grandparents raising grandchildren are resilient; and

22 WHEREAS, children who are raised by their grandparents
23 remain in a familial household where they receive the love
24 and support necessary to reach their full potential; and

25 WHEREAS, in the eyes of a child, a grandparent is truly

1 a hero;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that grandparents raising grandchildren
4 be recognized and honored for their tremendous contributions
5 to their communities and their commitment to raising future
6 generations; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that organizations that support
8 grandparents raising grandchildren be commended for their
9 important work; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that January 28, 2014 be declared
11 "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Day" in the senate; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
13 transmitted to Las Cumbres community services, inc. _____

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