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SENATE MEMORIAL 85

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014**

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

HONORING CANCER PATIENTS AND SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND OTHER CAREGIVERS; REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER; DECLARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014, AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A CANCER-FREE WORLD DAY IN THE SENATE".

WHEREAS, more than ten thousand New Mexicans were newly diagnosed with cancer in 2013; and

WHEREAS, for over twenty-five years, the American cancer society relay for life has been celebrating hope, giving a voice to so many touched by cancer; and

WHEREAS, thirteen years ago, many of these voices joined together to form a nationwide grassroots movement called the American cancer society cancer action network, an organization united and relentless in pursuit of its mission to defeat cancer by working with lawmakers to create hope for those

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1 affected by cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges  
3 associated with their diagnoses, including physical, emotional,  
4 financial and ordinary day-to-day challenges; and

5 WHEREAS, people without access to quality, affordable  
6 health care are significantly more likely to be diagnosed with  
7 advanced-stage cancer, resulting in significantly worse health  
8 outcomes for low-income and uninsured cancer patients; and

9 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is sixty-  
10 eight percent, up from forty-nine percent nearly forty years  
11 ago, thanks to cancer research as well as lifesaving cancer  
12 prevention, screening, early detection and treatment programs;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, it is essential to preserve the quality of life  
15 and dignity of all people who have struggled with cancer and  
16 who often feel isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

17 WHEREAS, volunteers and members of the American cancer  
18 society cancer action network work diligently every day to  
19 advocate on behalf of cancer patients, survivors and caregivers  
20 so that one day cancer will be eliminated as a major public  
21 health issue;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
23 OF NEW MEXICO that it honor cancer patients and survivors and  
24 their families and other caregivers, remember those people who  
25 have been lost to cancer and declare Monday, February 10, 2014,

.196716.1

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1 as "Create Hope for a Cancer-Free World Day in the Senate"; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
3 transmitted to the governor and to the American cancer society  
4 cancer action network.

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