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HOUSE MEMORIAL 18

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Stephanie Garcia Richard

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE NEW MEXICO ALLIANCE OF YMCAS AND DECLARING FEBRUARY 12, 2015 "SUPPORT THE NEW MEXICO ALLIANCE OF YMCAS DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, for over one hundred years, the New Mexico alliance of YMCAs has strengthened the foundations of community statewide through programs and services that foster youth development, healthy living and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, more and more New Mexicans are turning to the YMCA for education on nutrition and for programs to manage diabetes and other chronic diseases, which supports New Mexicans in their desire to live healthier lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty-three thousand New Mexicans benefit directly each year from the YMCA's extensive programming for all ages and abilities, programs that include

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1 early childhood education, job-readiness, tax preparation for
2 senior citizens and wellness opportunities; and

3 WHEREAS, more than ten thousand four hundred youths in New
4 Mexico benefit each year from programs such as YMCA after-
5 school enrichment, youth-in-government, developmental sports,
6 earth service corps, counselor-in-training, teen life skills,
7 teen centers, camp Shaver and hundreds of other character-
8 building and youth-development programs; and

9 WHEREAS, more than six hundred individuals volunteer at
10 YMCAs each year, donating thousands of hours of time and
11 expertise so that others may develop their potential and making
12 New Mexico's alliance of YMCAs one of the largest volunteer-led
13 and volunteer-driven organizations in the state; and

14 WHEREAS, each YMCA is governed by a local volunteer board
15 of directors whose members believe that YMCAs are working to
16 meet the most pressing everyday needs in their communities,
17 from addressing health and education disparities to providing
18 critical services and support to underserved populations, and
19 whose members who give generously of their time, money and
20 efforts to help New Mexicans grow into responsible members of
21 their families and communities; and

22 WHEREAS, the New Mexico alliance of YMCAs has awarded
23 nearly seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) in financial
24 aid so that everyone, regardless of ability to pay, can
25 participate in YMCA activities and programs; and

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