

1 A MEMORIAL

2 PROCLAIMING JANUARY 2016 AS "NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH" IN THE  
3 NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4  
5 WHEREAS, the residents of New Mexico recognize that  
6 everyone's success depends on helping children to succeed in  
7 school and reach their full potential in life and on  
8 realizing that young people need a solid foundation of  
9 support to help them become well-educated, confident and  
10 productive citizens; and

11 WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven effective strategy that  
12 helps children and young adults by matching them with caring,  
13 responsible adults who can provide guidance and direction and  
14 build confidence; and

15 WHEREAS, mentors build character, encourage success,  
16 boost confidence, lift expectations and inspire young people  
17 to do their best; and

18 WHEREAS, mentors serve as friends, role models, teachers  
19 and sources of stability during a critical time in a child's  
20 life; and

21 WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring has beneficial  
22 long-term effects on youth by increasing academic engagement  
23 and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other  
24 harmful behaviors; and

25 WHEREAS, mentoring strengthens the state's economic and

1 social well-being by helping young people reach their  
2 potential while helping maintain healthy families and  
3 promoting more vibrant communities; and

4 WHEREAS, residents of New Mexico are making a profound  
5 difference in the lives of young people by serving as  
6 mentors, supported by many private- and public-sector  
7 organizations that offer mentoring opportunities; and

8 WHEREAS, many children in New Mexico are in need of a  
9 caring adult mentor, and closing this mentoring gap will take  
10 more investment, partnerships and volunteers that are ready  
11 to make a difference in a child's life; and

12 WHEREAS, President Obama's administration is working to  
13 expand mentoring and other volunteer opportunities across the  
14 United States through the United We Serve initiative, the  
15 corporation for national and community service and other  
16 agencies and programs; and

17 WHEREAS, "National Mentoring Month" is an opportunity to  
18 raise public awareness on the importance of mentoring, to  
19 recognize the dedication of individuals that serve as mentors  
20 and to encourage more citizens to help build a brighter  
21 future for New Mexico's youth through mentoring;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the month of  
24 January 2016 be proclaimed "National Mentoring Month" in the  
25 New Mexico house of representatives and that the people of

1 New Mexico be encouraged to recognize the importance of  
2 mentoring, to look for opportunities to serve as mentors in  
3 their communities and to observe this month with appropriate  
4 activities and programs.

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