

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER 19 THROUGH
3 SEPTEMBER 23, 2016, "MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK" IN NEW
4 MEXICO.

5
6 WHEREAS, malnutrition awareness week is taking place
7 nationally from September 19 through September 23, 2016; and

8 WHEREAS, the observance of malnutrition awareness week
9 was first established in 2012 by the American society for
10 parenteral and enteral nutrition, also known as "A.S.P.E.N.";
11 and

12 WHEREAS, A.S.P.E.N. has played a leading role in drawing
13 attention to malnutrition, understanding that awareness is an
14 important step toward treating the condition; and

15 WHEREAS, A.S.P.E.N. defines malnutrition as an "acute,
16 subacute or chronic state of poor nutrition", and it can be
17 the result of either inadequate or unbalanced nutrition; and

18 WHEREAS, even overweight individuals can be malnourished
19 if they are not receiving proper nutrients; and

20 WHEREAS, malnutrition can cause the loss of lean body
21 mass, and that loss can affect recovery from surgery, illness
22 or disease; and

23 WHEREAS, malnutrition is particularly prevalent in
24 vulnerable groups such as older adults, hospital patients and
25 minority populations; and

1 WHEREAS, statistics show higher incidences of such
2 severe chronic diseases as diabetes, kidney disease and
3 cardiovascular disease among individuals who are
4 malnourished; and

5 WHEREAS, many health experts agree that the quality of
6 nutrition has a direct impact on an individual's health and
7 that good nutrition can reduce medical costs by helping to
8 keep people healthy and out of institutionalized care; and

9 WHEREAS, two important tools in combating malnutrition
10 are nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition, through
11 which individuals at risk are administered food and fluids to
12 support their metabolism; and

13 WHEREAS, the benefits of nutritional screening and
14 therapeutic nutrition are myriad, yet they are not routine
15 practices across the spectrum of health care; and

16 WHEREAS, the New Mexico academy of nutrition and
17 dietetics considers access to nutritional screening and
18 therapeutic nutrition essential to restoring lean body mass,
19 improving clinical outcomes, reducing health care costs and
20 promoting good health; and

21 WHEREAS, by gaining a more thorough understanding of
22 malnutrition, New Mexico residents are able to better
23 safeguard their health and to seek effective treatments; and

24 WHEREAS, all those involved in sharing information about
25 malnutrition are deserving of support;

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
2 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO THAT the governor
3 be requested to proclaim September 19 through September 23,
4 2016, as "Malnutrition Awareness Week" in New Mexico; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the governor and the chief executive officer
7 of the American society of parenteral and enteral nutrition.

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