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SENATE MEMORIAL 13

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

William P. Soules

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING JANUARY 2016 AS "NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH" IN THE
NEW MEXICO SENATE.

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

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

WHEREAS, mentors build character, encourage success, boost
confidence, lift expectations and inspire young people to do

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1 their best; and

2 WHEREAS, mentors serve as friends, role models, teachers
3 and sources of stability during a critical time in a child's
4 life; and

5 WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring has beneficial
6 long-term effects on youth by increasing academic engagement
7 and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other
8 harmful behaviors; and

9 WHEREAS, mentoring strengthens the state's economic and
10 social well-being by helping young people reach their potential
11 while helping maintain healthy families and promoting more
12 vibrant communities; and

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

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

21 WHEREAS, President Obama's administration is working to
22 expand mentoring and other volunteer opportunities across the
23 United States through the United We Serve initiative, the
24 corporation for national and community service and other
25 agencies and programs; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the month of January 2016 be proclaimed "National Mentoring Month" in the New Mexico senate and that the people of New Mexico be encouraged to recognize the importance of mentoring, to look for opportunities to serve as mentors in their communities and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.