

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 22

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 18, 2017 "TERESA MUFFOLETTO BRAIN ANEURYSM
AWARENESS DAY" IN THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, a brain aneurysm is an abnormal saccular or
fusiform bulging of an artery in the brain; and

WHEREAS, an estimated one out of every fifty people in the
United States has a brain aneurysm; and

WHEREAS, brain aneurysms are most likely to occur in
people between the ages of thirty-five and sixty, and there are
typically no warning signs; and

WHEREAS, brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in women
than in men by a three-to-two ratio; and

WHEREAS, various risk factors can contribute to the
formation of a brain aneurysm, including smoking, hypertension
and a family history of brain aneurysms; and

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1 WHEREAS, an unruptured brain aneurysm can lead to double
2 vision, vision loss, loss of sensation, weakness, loss of
3 balance and speech problems; and

4 WHEREAS, a brain aneurysm is often discovered when it
5 ruptures and causes a subarachnoid hemorrhage, which can lead
6 to brain damage, hydrocephalus, stroke and death; and

7 WHEREAS, each year, more than thirty thousand people in
8 the United States suffer from ruptured brain aneurysms, and
9 forty percent of these people die as a result; and

10 WHEREAS, a number of advancements have been made in recent
11 years regarding the detection of aneurysms, including the
12 computerized tomography (CT) scan, the magnetic resonance
13 imaging (MRI) scan and the cerebral arteriogram, and early
14 detection can save lives; and

15 WHEREAS, various research studies are currently being
16 conducted in the United States to better understand, prevent
17 and treat brain aneurysms; and

18 WHEREAS, Teresa Muffoletto resided in Ojo Caliente, New
19 Mexico, and was a registered nurse in northern New Mexico who
20 helped her patients beyond her duties and truly loved helping
21 others; and

22 WHEREAS, on February 22, 2016, she had a stroke from a
23 ruptured brain aneurysm and fought a hard battle through
24 recovery; and

25 WHEREAS, despite her tough fight and miraculous recovery,

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1 she had complications on March 18, 2016, and she died on March
2 19, 2016; and

3 WHEREAS, "Teresa Muffoletto Brain Aneurysm Awareness Day"
4 will increase public awareness of brain aneurysms, acknowledge
5 the need for more research funding and educate the public on
6 what to look for when someone suffers a brain aneurysm rupture;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
8 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 18, 2017 be proclaimed "Teresa
9 Muffoletto Brain Aneurysm Awareness Day" at the legislature;
10 and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor be requested to
12 designate September 2017 as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month" in
13 New Mexico; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature urge the
15 president of the United States and members of congress to enact
16 legislation to provide additional funding for research related
17 to and prevention of brain aneurysm ruptures; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the governor; the brain aneurysm foundation; the
20 interim legislative health and human services committee; the
21 family of Teresa Muffoletto, including daughters Melissa
22 Valdez, Stephanie Cassidy and Erin Muffoletto Baca; the New
23 Mexico congressional delegation; and the president of the
24 United States.