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HOUSE MEMORIAL 20

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Rebecca Dow and Kelly K. Fajardo and Patricio Ruiloba

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 1, 2019 "FOSTER PARENT AND ADVOCATE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, hundreds of New Mexicans serve as foster care parents to children who are removed from their homes, through no fault of their own, because the homes are not safe places for them; and

WHEREAS, foster care parents provide unconditional love, care and commitment to displaced children; and

WHEREAS, according to the children, youth and families department, in fiscal year 2018, there were two thousand five hundred thirty-one children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, foster care parents participated in three hundred eleven finalized adoptions; and

WHEREAS, foster care parents are ready to receive a child

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1 at a moment's notice, without any previous knowledge or
2 information about the child or for how long the child will need
3 their care; and

4 WHEREAS, foster care parents exemplify selflessness and
5 community by building positive connections and experiences for
6 foster care children by doing their best to provide for the
7 stability and security of those children; and

8 WHEREAS, foster care parents open their homes and their
9 hearts to children who need love and support, while respecting
10 and fostering connections to the children's culture, religion
11 and community; and

12 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children in foster care
13 realize they are not alone and that others care for them; and

14 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children build self-
15 esteem and confidence and provide structure that will
16 contribute to healthy and engaging lives; and

17 WHEREAS, foster care parents have the joy and privilege of
18 parenting and learning from children who did not decide to be
19 placed under the state's care, but like all children, have so
20 much to offer;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 1, 2019
23 be declared "Foster Parent and Advocate Day" in the house of
24 representatives; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

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transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and families.

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