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SENATE MEMORIAL 21

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

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 14, 2019 "RUDOLFO ANAYA I LOVE TO READ DAY"
IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, reading is the most important skill a child will ever learn, as reading is the gateway to higher education and career success; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's children need the support of caring adults to encourage them to read and to keep reading; and

WHEREAS, books by and about New Mexico encourage a strong self-identity and help preserve unique New Mexican languages while strengthening important reading skills; and

WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya is a widely celebrated educator who truly believes that "leer es poder", meaning "reading is power", and whose efforts have brought critical attention to reading as the foundation of learning, which is essential to

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1 the growth and success of all children and their communities;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya is a native son of New Mexico with
4 humble beginnings in Pastura in Guadalupe county, is today
5 regarded as the father of Chicano literature and is the
6 recipient of the national medal of arts, the national
7 humanities medal, the American book award and numerous other
8 accolades; and

9 WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya believes that all New Mexico
10 children should be familiar with the folklore and traditions of
11 their state's cultures, such as cuentos, dichos, plays, songs
12 and Native American stories; and

13 WHEREAS, Rudolfo Anaya's efforts have brought critical
14 attention to reading as the foundation of learning, which is
15 essential to the growth and success of all children and their
16 communities; and

17 WHEREAS, a reading program was established as a
18 partnership between Rudolfo Anaya and the Christopher Montalvo
19 memorial fund to inspire children to read more, and it is now
20 in its fourth year; and

21 WHEREAS, the goal of this reading program is to encourage
22 and recognize reading achievements by New Mexico children at
23 home and in every New Mexico school; and

24 WHEREAS, a bill has been introduced in the first session
25 of the fifty-fourth legislature to enact a public holiday

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1 declaring February 14 of each year "Rudolfo Anaya I Love to
2 Read Day";

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
4 OF NEW MEXICO that February 14, 2019 be declared "Rudolfo Anaya
5 I Love To Read Day" in the senate; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all children in New Mexico
7 enjoy reading with a caring adult on this day to encourage them
8 to read and keep on reading; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to Rudolfo Anaya and the reading program
11 established with the Christopher Montalvo memorial fund.