

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING JANUARY 26, 2011 "CHAVES COUNTY EVERY 15 MINUTES
3 PROGRAM DAY" IN THE NEW MEXICO SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, in the United States, someone is killed in a
6 drunk-driving accident every fifteen minutes; and

7 WHEREAS, the Chaves county DWI program and Chaves county
8 youth awareness group work together each year to help put on
9 the Chaves county every 15 minutes program for the benefit of
10 the entire community; and

11 WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program
12 mission statement is "working together selflessly in an
13 effort to educate our youth and community on the dangers of
14 drinking and driving and underage drinking", and the motto is
15 "I make a difference and saving lives is our mission"; and

16 WHEREAS, the Chaves county youth awareness group is a
17 nonprofit organization, composed entirely of volunteers, that
18 conducts the Chaves county every 15 minutes program, which is
19 an intense and emotional two-day, thirty-hour program
20 designed to educate students and families about the dangers
21 of underage drinking and of drinking and driving; and

22 WHEREAS, the program is intended to be conducted at or
23 near the time of high school proms and graduations because
24 statistics show that underage drinking increases with these
25 two annual events; and

1 WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program is
2 an important addition to the Chaves county DWI program, and
3 it reaches every student in a targeted high school, along
4 with staff and family members and others in the community;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the goal of the Chaves county every 15 minutes
7 program is to have an impact on every family, home and
8 business in Chaves county and in surrounding areas in order
9 to make a difference in the lives of youths and families; and

10 WHEREAS, the Chaves county youth awareness group
11 initially started with volunteers from fire, police and
12 emergency medical services personnel but has grown to include
13 people from all walks of life; and

14 WHEREAS, each year, the Chaves county youth awareness
15 group has expanded the program, both in scale and intensity,
16 with a complete focus on saving lives, especially the lives
17 of young people, who are the future; and

18 WHEREAS, one life saved is all it takes to be
19 successful; and

20 WHEREAS, the program's success have been the result of
21 the efforts of dedicated volunteers, donations from local
22 businesses and individuals and funding from the Chaves county
23 DWI program, all of which have been substantial; and

24 WHEREAS, donations by local businesses, special
25 individuals and the Chaves county DWI program have made it

1 possible to put on this great program; and

2 WHEREAS, the Chaves county every 15 minutes program
3 started in April 1999, when the first event was held at
4 Roswell high school, and has expanded in the last eleven
5 years to include every school district in Chaves county; and

6 WHEREAS, this year alone, the program will reach one
7 thousand two hundred students;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 26, 2011 be declared "Chaves
10 County Every 15 Minutes Program Day" in the New Mexico
11 senate; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the Chaves county DWI program and the Chaves
14 county youth awareness group. _____

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