

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 35

2 **50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 ENCOURAGING PUBLIC SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE DIRECTORS TO ESTABLISH
12 PROCEDURES WHEREBY UNEATEN FRESH FRUIT CAN BE DONATED TO LOCAL
13 SENIOR MEALS PROGRAMS.

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15 WHEREAS, the vision of the senior meals program is to end
16 senior hunger in New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, senior hunger in America is a monumental problem,
18 with more than seven and one-half million seniors facing the
19 threat of hunger; and

20 WHEREAS, senior hunger is a problem that is not limited to
21 any single race or ethnic group, nor to few geographic areas or
22 a particular income level; and

23 WHEREAS, in a *Ranking of States by Rates of Food*
24 *Insecurity among Senior Americans*, New Mexico ranks fifth,
25 behind Mississippi, South Carolina, Arkansas and Texas; and

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1 WHEREAS, the senior meals programs in place in communities
2 across New Mexico have engaged a number of sponsors to support
3 the mission of alleviating senior hunger; and

4 WHEREAS, a promising model has been the one in place
5 between the Gadsden independent school district and that area's
6 local senior meals program, whereby fresh fruit that is not
7 eaten by students in school cafeterias is collected and donated
8 to the meals on wheels program and distributed to hungry
9 seniors in Dona Ana county;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that public school food service directors
12 be encouraged to establish procedures to collect uneaten fresh
13 fruit and donate it to a local senior meals program for
14 distribution to hungry seniors; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the public education department for distribution
17 to local school superintendents, head administrators of charter
18 schools and school district and charter school food service
19 directors.

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