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SENATE MEMORIAL 72

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

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Jane M. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH "FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK" IN
THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, many New Mexicans speak more than one language;
and

WHEREAS, acquiring more than one language confers concrete
cognitive benefits and improves creative thinking and logic by
increasing neural connections in the brain; and

WHEREAS, learning a foreign language also provides an
opportunity to learn about another culture, which tends to
increase empathy and social skills; and

WHEREAS, the increasingly interconnected global and
technology-dependent economy requires expanded creative
thinking and logic and knowledge of more than one language; and

WHEREAS, support for foreign language instruction is

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1 provided by the New Mexico organization of language educators;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, support for foreign language learners and
4 teachers is vital for the promotion and continuation of
5 multilingualism in the state; and

6 WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of and supporting
7 multilingualism in every school, from the primary grades
8 through higher education, is necessary for the state's
9 educational and economic initiatives;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
11 OF NEW MEXICO that the first week of March be declared "Foreign
12 Language Week" in the senate; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the New Mexico organization of language
15 educators, the secretary of public education and the secretary
16 of higher education.

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