

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 8

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DESIGNATE SEPTEMBER 2015 AS "BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH" IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, a brain aneurysm is an abnormal saccular or fusiform bulging of an artery in the brain; and

WHEREAS, an estimated one out of every fifty people in the United States has a brain aneurysm; and

WHEREAS, brain aneurysms are most likely to occur in people between the ages of thirty-five and sixty, and there are typically no warning signs; and

WHEREAS, brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in women than in men by a three-to-two ratio; and

WHEREAS, young and middle-aged African Americans have a higher risk of brain aneurysm rupture compared to Caucasian Americans; and

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1 WHEREAS, various risk factors can contribute to the
2 formation of a brain aneurysm, including smoking, hypertension
3 and a family history of brain aneurysms; and

4 WHEREAS, approximately six million people in the United
5 States have a brain aneurysm; and

6 WHEREAS, an unruptured brain aneurysm can lead to double
7 vision, vision loss, loss of sensation, weakness, loss of
8 balance, uncoordination and speech problems; and

9 WHEREAS, a brain aneurysm is often discovered when it
10 ruptures and causes a subarachnoid hemorrhage, which can lead
11 to brain damage, hydrocephalus, stroke and death; and

12 WHEREAS, each year, more than thirty thousand people in
13 the United States suffer from ruptured brain aneurysms, and
14 forty percent of these people die as a result of a ruptured
15 brain aneurysm; and

16 WHEREAS, annually, between three thousand and four
17 thousand five hundred people in the United States with ruptured
18 brain aneurysms die before reaching a hospital; and

19 WHEREAS, a number of advancements have been made in recent
20 years regarding the detection of aneurysms, including the
21 computerized tomography (CT) scan, the magnetic resonance
22 imaging (MRI) test and the cerebral arteriogram, and early
23 detection can save lives; and

24 WHEREAS, various research studies are currently being
25 conducted in the United States in order to better understand,

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1 prevent and treat brain aneurysms; and

2 WHEREAS, September 2015 would be an appropriate month to
3 designate as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month" in New Mexico;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to designate
6 September 2015 as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month" in New
7 Mexico; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the governor and to the brain aneurysm
10 foundation.