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HOUSE MEMORIAL 26

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Stephanie Garcia Richard

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 4, 2016 "YMCA DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, for one hundred one years, the New Mexico state alliance of YMCAs has strengthened the foundations of communities in New Mexico through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility programs; and

WHEREAS, more and more New Mexicans are turning to their local YMCA for education on nutrition and for programs to help manage diabetes and other chronic diseases and for support in their desire to live healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, nearly thirty-eight thousand individuals benefit directly each year from the YMCA's extensive programs for all ages and abilities, including early childhood education, job-readiness programs for teens, fitness and wellness

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1 opportunities and healthy living programs for senior citizens;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, nearly fourteen thousand youth benefit each year
4 from programs such as YMCA after-school enrichment, youth-in-
5 government, developmental sports, earth service corps, camp
6 Shaver, teen life-skills classes and teen centers; and

7 WHEREAS, almost five hundred individuals volunteer at
8 YMCAs each year, donating thousands of hours of time and
9 expertise so that others may develop their potential, making
10 the YMCA one of the largest volunteer-driven and volunteer-led
11 organizations in New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, each YMCA is governed by a local volunteer board
13 of directors whose members believe that every day the YMCA is
14 working to meet the most pressing needs in their community,
15 from addressing health and education disparities to providing
16 critical services and support to underserved populations, and
17 whose members give generously of their time and money so that
18 residents may grow as responsible members of their communities;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, nearly seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000)
21 has been awarded in financial aid programs funded by annual
22 campaign donations from members, community members and
23 community partners, so that anyone, regardless of ability to
24 pay, can participate in YMCA activities and programs;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

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1 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 4,
2 2016 be declared "YMCA Day" in the house of representatives in
3 recognition of the important role that the YMCA plays in
4 providing community programs and support to youth, families and
5 adults throughout New Mexico; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the New Mexico alliance of YMCAs.