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HOUSE MEMORIAL 27

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

INTRODUCED BY

Stephanie Garcia Richard

A MEMORIAL

PROCLAIMING JANUARY 2016 AS "NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH" IN THE
NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, the residents of New Mexico recognize that everyone's success depends on helping children to succeed in school and reach their full potential in life and on realizing that young people need a solid foundation of support to help them become well-educated, confident and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven effective strategy that helps children and young adults by matching them with caring, responsible adults who can provide guidance and direction and build confidence; and

WHEREAS, mentors build character, encourage success, boost confidence, lift expectations and inspire young people to do

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1 their best; and

2 WHEREAS, mentors serve as friends, role models, teachers
3 and sources of stability during a critical time in a child's
4 life; and

5 WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring has beneficial
6 long-term effects on youth by increasing academic engagement
7 and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other
8 harmful behaviors; and

9 WHEREAS, mentoring strengthens the state's economic and
10 social well-being by helping young people reach their potential
11 while helping maintain healthy families and promoting more
12 vibrant communities; and

13 WHEREAS, residents of New Mexico are making a profound
14 difference in the lives of young people by serving as mentors,
15 supported by many private- and public-sector organizations that
16 offer mentoring opportunities; and

17 WHEREAS, many children in New Mexico are in need of a
18 caring adult mentor, and closing this mentoring gap will take
19 more investment, partnerships and volunteers that are ready to
20 make a difference in a child's life; and

21 WHEREAS, President Obama's administration is working to
22 expand mentoring and other volunteer opportunities across the
23 United States through the United We Serve initiative, the
24 corporation for national and community service and other
25 agencies and programs; and

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