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A MEMORIAL

HONORING CANCER PATIENTS, SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES;
REMEMBERING THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST TO CANCER;
DECLARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017, AS "CREATE HOPE FOR A
CANCER-FREE FUTURE DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, ten thousand forty New Mexicans are expected to
be newly diagnosed with cancer in 2017; and

WHEREAS, for over thirty years, the American cancer
society relay for life has been celebrating hope, with more
than eleven thousand four hundred New Mexicans participating
annually, giving a voice to so many touched by cancer; and

WHEREAS, sixteen years ago, in 2001, many of these
voices joined together to form a nationwide grassroots
movement called the American cancer society cancer action
network, an organization united and relentless in its mission
to defeat cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American cancer society cancer action
network has been working with lawmakers to create hope for
those affected by cancer; and

WHEREAS, cancer patients face countless challenges
associated with their diagnoses, including physical,
emotional, financial and day-to-day challenges; and

WHEREAS, people without access to quality, affordable
health care are significantly more likely to be diagnosed

1 with advanced-stage cancer, resulting in significantly worse
2 health outcomes for low-income and uninsured cancer patients;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for cancer is
5 sixty-eight percent, up from forty-nine percent nearly forty
6 years ago thanks to cancer research as well as lifesaving
7 cancer prevention, screening, early detection and treatment
8 programs; and

9 WHEREAS, it is essential to preserve the quality of life
10 and dignity of all people who have struggled with cancer and
11 who often feel isolated, stigmatized and misunderstood; and

12 WHEREAS, volunteers and members of the American cancer
13 society cancer action network work diligently every day to
14 advocate on behalf of cancer patients, survivors and
15 caregivers so that, one day, cancer will be eliminated as a
16 major public health issue;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
18 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it honor cancer patients, cancer
19 survivors and their families and remember those who have been
20 lost to cancer and that it declare Monday, February 6, 2017,
21 as "Create Hope for a Cancer-Free Future Day" in the senate;
22 and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the governor. _____