

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 1, 2019 "FOSTER PARENT AND ADVOCATE DAY" IN
3 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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5 WHEREAS, hundreds of New Mexicans serve as foster care
6 parents to children who are removed from their homes, through
7 no fault of their own, because the homes are not safe places
8 for them; and

9 WHEREAS, foster care parents provide unconditional love,
10 care and commitment to displaced children; and

11 WHEREAS, according to the children, youth and families
12 department, in fiscal year 2018, there were two thousand five
13 hundred thirty-one children in foster care; and

14 WHEREAS, foster care parents participated in three
15 hundred eleven finalized adoptions; and

16 WHEREAS, foster care parents are ready to receive a
17 child at a moment's notice, without any previous knowledge or
18 information about the child or for how long the child will
19 need their care; and

20 WHEREAS, foster care parents exemplify selflessness and
21 community by building positive connections and experiences
22 for foster care children by doing their best to provide for
23 the stability and security of those children; and

24 WHEREAS, foster care parents open their homes and their
25 hearts to children who need love and support, while

1 respecting and fostering connections to the children's
2 culture, religion and community; and

3 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children in foster
4 care realize they are not alone and that others care for
5 them; and

6 WHEREAS, foster care parents help children build self-
7 esteem and confidence and provide structure that will
8 contribute to healthy and engaging lives; and

9 WHEREAS, foster care parents have the joy and privilege
10 of parenting and learning from children who did not decide to
11 be placed under the state's care, but like all children, have
12 so much to offer;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 1, 2019
15 be declared "Foster Parent and Advocate Day" in the house of
16 representatives; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the secretary of children, youth and families. =

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