

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 5, 2019 AS "END HUNGER DAY" IN THE NEW MEXICO
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4
5 WHEREAS, the 2018 "map the meal gap" report from the
6 national anti-hunger organization feeding America indicates
7 that twenty-six percent of children, or one hundred twenty-
8 five thousand two hundred ten children, are at risk of hunger
9 in New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, the United States department of agriculture
11 research service ranks New Mexico sixth-highest among the
12 states with the most people experiencing hunger; and

13 WHEREAS, the map the meal gap report also shows that
14 hunger is getting worse in New Mexico: the overall hunger
15 rate in New Mexico is seventeen percent, an increase from
16 2017's rate of sixteen percent; and

17 WHEREAS, hunger is directly linked to poverty; and

18 WHEREAS, the 2018 annual KIDS COUNT report compiled by
19 the Annie E. Casey foundation found that seventeen percent of
20 New Mexico children struggle with food insecurity; and

21 WHEREAS, the 2018 KIDS COUNT report ranks New Mexico,
22 with twenty-seven percent of children living in poverty,
23 among the states with the worst rates of child poverty; and

24 WHEREAS, the center for American progress reports that
25 four hundred one thousand seven hundred fifty-five New

1 Mexicans, or nearly one in five state residents, were living
2 in poverty in 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, although there are a number of public and
4 private programs that seek to address issues relating to
5 hunger in New Mexico, many of these programs are "siloed",
6 and there is little systematic communication among these
7 programs; and

8 WHEREAS, there is a need for a single, statewide plan
9 among policymakers, agencies and organizations for ending
10 hunger in New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, at the request of the house of representatives,
12 pursuant to 2018's House Memorial 90, a multidisciplinary,
13 multi-stakeholder "hunger council" made up of legislators,
14 state and local government agency representatives and experts
15 in hunger and poverty policy has been meeting to develop a
16 single statewide plan for ending hunger in New Mexico;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Tuesday,
19 March 5, 2019, be declared "End Hunger Day" in the house of
20 representatives; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the hunger council be
22 requested to continue its work on a single, statewide plan
23 for ending hunger in New Mexico; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the New Mexico
25 legislature be requested to form a "hunger caucus" to support

1 legislation aimed at ending hunger in New Mexico; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the governor, the secretary of human services,
4 the secretary of aging and long-term services, the secretary
5 of children, youth and families and the convener of the hunger
6 council. _____

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