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SENATE MEMORIAL 38

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Richard C. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 19, 2020 "MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, to assist in the effort to locate and identify missing and unidentified persons, within thirty days the department of public safety is now required by the Mark Daniel Aguilar information sharing requirement of the Missing Persons Information and Reporting Act to share the following information with the national missing and unidentified persons system created by the United States department of justice's national institute of justice:

- A. all information in the missing persons information clearinghouse; and
- B. all information the department receives pursuant to the Missing Persons Information and Reporting Act regarding

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1 the identification and location of missing and unidentified
2 persons or human remains; and

3 WHEREAS, the Mark Daniel Aguilar information sharing
4 requirement became effective on June 14, 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, in addition, public notice required pursuant to
6 the Missing Persons and Information Reporting Act was expanded
7 by 2019 Senate Bill 42 to include a "silver alert" when a
8 person suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's disease goes
9 missing, regardless of the age of the missing person; and

10 WHEREAS, the bill also clarifies the responsibilities of
11 the various agencies and cellular service companies involved in
12 the notice process; and

13 WHEREAS, there are currently over seven hundred fifty-six
14 active missing persons cases and one hundred eighteen
15 unidentified persons cases in New Mexico that have been
16 successfully shared and imported into the national missing and
17 unidentified persons system as of December 31, 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, the national missing and unidentified persons
19 system has seventeen thousand one hundred twenty-four missing
20 persons and thirteen thousand one hundred thirty-six
21 unidentified persons entered into the national database; and

22 WHEREAS, the national crime information center as of
23 December 2018 contained eighty-five thousand four hundred
24 fifty-nine active missing persons records; and

25 WHEREAS, the national missing and unidentified persons

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1 system is a nationwide information clearinghouse for missing,
2 unidentified and unclaimed persons cases across the United
3 States that provides resources to law enforcement, medical
4 examiners, coroners, allied forensic professionals and family
5 members of missing persons; and

6 WHEREAS, missing persons cases affect people of every age,
7 race, religion, socioeconomic status, gender and social and
8 cultural background, changing the dynamic of a family in an
9 instant; and

10 WHEREAS, few circumstances are more devastating to a
11 family than the unknown whereabouts or fate of a loved one;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
13 OF NEW MEXICO that February 19, 2020 be declared "Missing and
14 Unidentified Persons Day" in the senate; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that recognition be extended to all
16 missing and unidentified persons and to the many families of
17 missing persons that endure ambiguous loss; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexicans recognize those
19 families affected by a loved one's disappearance and continue
20 to keep missing persons a priority; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
22 transmitted to the secretary of public safety.