

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 18, 2012 AS "AUTISM DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND RECOGNIZING THE NEW MEXICO AUTISM SOCIETY FOR ITS LONG-STANDING WORK AND ADVOCACY.

WHEREAS, autism disorders are the fastest growing developmental disability in the world today; and

WHEREAS, one of every one hundred ten children will be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders affect a person's communication and social interactions; and

WHEREAS, autism is a lifelong condition that varies in its presentation from severe to mildly impairing; and

WHEREAS, the cause of autism remains unknown; and

WHEREAS, treatment for autism is effective when it is highly individualized; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico has a deficit of service providers and people trained in the treatment and care of persons with autism; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico should strive to improve systems of care for children and adults with autism; and

WHEREAS, the state recognizes the valuable contributions to its communities, businesses, technologies and cultures made by people with autism; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico autism society has been

advocating for people with autism and their families for over forty years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 18, 2012 be declared "Autism Day" in the house of representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives recognize the New Mexico autism society for its efforts in service of people with autism and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico autism society.