

MEMORIAL

71<sup>st</sup> SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE – 2018

INTRODUCED BY

A MEMORIAL

AWARING MINORITY CITIZENS OF THEIR HEALTH RISKS AND ENCOURING ALL TOO MAKE HEALTHY LIFE STYLE CHOICES; DECLARING THE WEEK OF JUNE 23 THROUGH JUNE 29, 2018 TO BE “NEW MEXICO MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK” AT THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, New Mexico’s majority population includes many minority groups, such as Hispanics, American Indians, African Americans, and Mexicans whom typically experience more chronic health problems than non-minorities, including Heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and obesity, these people generally do not have much access to health care and most do not even know that they may have these health problems; and

WHEREAS, providing a week full of health related information and opportunities available to these minority groups could be beneficial, by potentially saving lives, by reducing health risks, by educating people of all ages about their health, and by making New Mexico a healthier state overall; and

WHEREAS, providing these resources may also come with the possibility of setting a good example to other states and possibly to the nation to take better precautions and make more opportunities to better the health of the population, they could do this by following our lead in making the same health resource options available to the people; and

WHEREAS, the health opportunities and information mentioned could be provided by New Mexico's hospitals and other Health related organizations, which could specifically provide opportunities like free or low-cost checkups and vaccinations, and information like pamphlets and health classes that teach about the common diseases and illnesses each minority is likely to get, and that teach about how to take care of oneself and when to get checked by a health care professional, along with those teachings, the classes could also teach people how to inform and take care of other family members and friends if they are concerned about their health; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE that it call upon the New Mexico Legislature that the week of June 23 through June 29, 2018 be declared "New Mexico Minority Health Awareness Week" at the legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it provides opportunities and information in order to aware minority groups in New Mexico about health related problems and their solutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it encourages all citizens in the state of New Mexico to participate in making healthy life style choices, and potentially encourage people from other states to participate as well; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, members of the legislature of the state of New Mexico and of the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, the executive of the New Mexico Health Department, the New Mexico Hospital Association, and all other necessary health related organizations and persons for appropriate distribution.