

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 28

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

Howie C. Morales

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008, "BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS
YOUTH MENTORING DAY" AT THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, more boys and girls in New Mexico than ever
before grow up in circumstances that place them at severe risk
of dropping out of school, youth crime and violence, drug and
alcohol abuse and teen pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, the big brothers big sisters mission is to bring
caring adults into the lives of young people in order to
prevent destructive behavior and instill positive values and
life skills; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's big brothers big sisters programs
served over three thousand children in 2007 in counties across
the entire state and these programs were nationally recognized
for their Hispanic and Native American mentoring initiatives;

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 and

2 WHEREAS, science-based research has shown that a young
3 person who is matched with a big brother or big sister
4 volunteer is:

5 A. forty-six percent less likely to start using
6 illegal drugs;

7 B. twenty-seven percent less likely to start
8 drinking;

9 C. fifty-two percent less likely to skip a day of
10 school;

11 D. thirty-seven percent less likely to skip a
12 class; and

13 E. less likely to engage in violence; and

14 WHEREAS, the positive impact of big brothers big sisters
15 has proved that one adult caring for one child is the most
16 powerful force to keep young people in school, off drugs and
17 alcohol and out of trouble with the law; and

18 WHEREAS, New Mexico's big brothers big sisters programs
19 and its school-based partners have grown twice as fast as the
20 national average, increasing the number of youth matched with
21 adults by nearly sixty percent to three thousand one hundred
22 big-little matches in the past year; and

23 WHEREAS, with waiting lists for all of its programs and a
24 torrent of requests from unserved counties in New Mexico, the
25 big brothers big sisters programs in New Mexico are committed

.172377.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 to bringing its life-changing program to all children in the
2 state, regardless of where they reside;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
4 OF NEW MEXICO that the invaluable contributions of big brothers
5 big sisters be recognized and that Friday, January 25, 2008, be
6 declared "Big Brothers Big Sisters Youth Mentoring Day" at the
7 sentate.