WHEREAS, in 1978, New Mexico became the first State to organize search and rescue volunteers on the state level; and

WHEREAS, when a person is reported lost or missing in the wilderness, New Mexico Search and Rescue responders are invaluable for the skills they bring to the situation; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico Search and Rescue is composed of all-volunteer search and rescue teams acting under the authority of the New Mexico State Police Division of the Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico conducts all wilderness search and rescue missions under a centralized, highly structured response plan to assure that resources can be quickly mobilized under the protocols of the Incident Command System; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, New Mexico Search and Rescue volunteers conducted ninety missions, searching for one hundred eighty people who were lost or missing; and

WHEREAS, currently there are almost one thousand two hundred active volunteers who respond to search and rescue missions; and

WHEREAS, the volunteers of New Mexico Search and Rescue provide their services at no cost to the state, its citizens or visitors; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico Search and Rescue has made a substantive difference in the lives of hundreds of citizens and visitors to the state, providing them with life-saving services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the volunteers of New Mexico Search and Rescue be recognized for the invaluable service they provide to the State, its citizens and visitors alike so "that others may live".

Signed and Sealed at The Capitol, in the City of Santa Fe.

Mary Kay Papen, President Pro Tem
New Mexico State Senate

Senator Peter Wirth
New Mexico State Senate

Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk
New Mexico State Senate