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October 10, 2018

Committee Expresses Condolences for Representative Larrañaga

The members of the Legislative Finance Committee this morning were saddened to learn of the death of Larry Larrañaga, a former committee member who served as a Republican state representative from Albuquerque from 1994 until his resignation earlier this month.

“Larry was respected and loved by all of us on the committee,” said Representative Patricia Lundstrom, committee chairwoman and a Gallup Democrat. “Larry led with a calm, fair example, and he was a major reason the members of the committee generally work well together. Even though he and I didn’t always agree on policy, I could always count on him to listen carefully and contribute greatly.”

Lundstrom extended her condolences to Larrañaga’s family and friends on behalf of all members of the committee.

“He’ll be missed,” said LFC Vice Chairman John Arthur Smith, D-Deming. “Larry was a solid budget manager with the advantage of having served as a cabinet secretary in the executive. His was an important voice on the committee and his work on the ‘rainy day’ fund will help the state weather economic downturns and serve as a lasting testament of his service to New Mexicans.”

Rep. Jimmie Hall, R-Albuquerque, vice chairman of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee when Larrañaga served as chairman in 2015-2016, said Larrañaga was key to committee successes.

“He was knowledgeable and fair, increasingly rare traits in politicians,” he said. “New Mexico will have a hard time finding someone who can fill his shoes.”

“All of New Mexico benefited from his keen and impartial insight,” said Senator Steven Neville, a Republican committee member from Aztec. “He was a great friend and a great legislator and a great member of the Torrance County ranching community.”