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SENATE MEMORIAL 26

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2000

INTRODUCED BY

Phillip A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

REMEMBERING FORMER DISTRICT JUDGE HARRY LONG BIGBEE, A
GENEROUS MAN WHO ADVISED UNITED STATES SENATORS AND
REPRESENTATIVES AND WAS A CONFIDANT OF MANY NEW MEXICO
GOVERNORS.

WHEREAS, Harry Bigbee passed away on Saturday, June 2,
1999, in Phoenix, Arizona, of kidney failure at the age of
eighty-four; and

WHEREAS, he met his late wife, Betty Roe, when they were
students at Drake university in Iowa where Harry was
attending law school; and

WHEREAS, he left Drake during the great depression and,
after working at the copper mines near Globe, Arizona, and
attending the university of Arizona, he completed his law
degree at southern Methodist university in 1942 after
marrying Betty and having the first of their three children;
and

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1 WHEREAS, he was admitted to the state bar in New Mexico
2 and was appointed the assistant attorney general and then he
3 was appointed district judge, where he sat for a year on the
4 bench before going back into private practice; and

5 WHEREAS, "New Mexico lost one of its number one great
6 citizens. He was always very proud to be a New Mexican. He
7 will be greatly missed by all," said former governor Bruce
8 King upon his passing; and

9 WHEREAS, Harry was a political mentor to former New
10 Mexico representatives Bill Richardson and Fabian Chavez; and

11 WHEREAS, a former law partner of Harry's, retired
12 supreme court justice Donnan Stephenson, said, "The plain and
13 simple fact is Harry was a genius. He had a tremendous
14 mind."; and

15 WHEREAS, he was a founding member of the Santa Fe boys
16 club and received numerous awards, including the legion of
17 honor award from the Santa Fe Kiwanis club and a doctorate of
18 letters from the college of Santa Fe; and

19 WHEREAS, he is survived by his son Harry Robert Bigbee;
20 daughters Elizabeth Keeshan and Nancy Jensen; a sister,
21 Allene Pickel; six grandchildren; and four great-
22 grandchildren;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
24 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that condolences be extended to the
25 family and friends of Harry Long Bigbee, a distinguished
26 confidant to many and a devoted New Mexican; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to members of Harry Bigbee's family.

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