

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

HOUSE MEMORIAL 81

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013

INTRODUCED BY

William J. Gray

A MEMORIAL

LAUDING ESTELLE HEFLER YATES FOR HER PHILANTHROPIC COMMITMENT
TO NEW MEXICO AND RECOGNIZING AND ACKNOWLEDGING HER AS A NEW
MEXICO TREASURE.

WHEREAS, Estelle Hefler Yates, age ninety-four, met her
husband, St. Clair Peyton "S.P." Yates, in Massachusetts in the
late 1930s when he was a graduate student at the Massachusetts
institute of technology; and

WHEREAS, Estelle married S.P. in 1940 and moved to
Artesia, where S.P. had grown up and where he joined the oil
business founded by his father, Martin Yates; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, S.P. founded Yates drilling company,
and, later, he and his brothers founded Yates petroleum
corporation, and Estelle supported S.P. as he worked to develop
two successful family businesses; and

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

1 WHEREAS, Estelle has always been very active in her
2 community and her church, helping with many community projects
3 such as the Artesia public library, Ocotillo performing arts
4 center, and Habitat for Humanity, including donating building
5 sites for habitat homes; and

6 WHEREAS, Estelle and S.P. Yates, generous and active
7 members of the Artesia community, supported many local
8 organizations, especially those serving young people, such as
9 the boy scouts and girl scouts, including serving on the
10 national board of the girl scouts; and

11 WHEREAS, Estelle has been extremely supportive of the arts
12 in the Artesia schools and her community, one example being
13 that she annually brings the national dance institute to
14 Artesia for one week to teach dance and singing to students at
15 all of the elementary schools in the school district. At the
16 end of the week, the dance group and the students perform for
17 the whole community, with the entire effort made possible by
18 the generosity of Estelle; and

19 WHEREAS, as the Yates family companies grew and their
20 operations expanded to other states, Estelle encouraged S.P. to
21 provide charitable support to those locales as well; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1955, they established the S.P. and Estelle
23 Yates family foundation to support the arts and human services,
24 and the foundation has been a strong supporter, in particular,
25 of the Artesia arts council, the national dance institute of

.193347.1

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

1 New Mexico and assurance home in Roswell, which cares for
2 homeless and at-risk youth; and

3 WHEREAS, sadly, S.P. passed away in 2008, but Estelle has
4 continued the couple's tradition of philanthropy, with generous
5 gifts to the university of New Mexico and the university of
6 Texas at Austin, which was her husband's alma mater, as well as
7 to the recently created New Mexico school for the arts; and

8 WHEREAS, Estelle established her own foundation, the
9 Estelle H. Yates foundation, in 2009 to focus her philanthropic
10 giving on education, arts and health services, providing
11 enhanced funding for the mathematics and science departments of
12 the Artesia public schools and providing significant funding
13 for the new Artesia public library; and

14 WHEREAS, for most of her gifts, donations and
15 contributions, Estelle has been acknowledged only as "private
16 donor", reflecting the true spirit of giving; and

17 WHEREAS, a great many of the "private donations" made to
18 the Artesia public schools and the community have come from
19 Estelle through the S.P. and Estelle Yates family foundation
20 and her own foundation;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it laud Estelle
23 Hefler Yates for her many years of philanthropic commitment to
24 New Mexico, particularly to its youth, through her unstinting
25 generosity; and

.193347.1

underscoring 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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Estelle Hefler Yates be
recognized and acknowledged as a New Mexico treasure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to Estelle Hefler Yates and her children.