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A MEMORIAL

HONORING WILLIAM EDWARD BOYKIN AND RECOGNIZING HIS  
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, William Edward Boykin, who served as state  
representative for district 37 in Dona Ana county for six  
years, died on November 17, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin was born June 27, 1932 in Clarendon,  
Texas, and he and his family later moved to southern New  
Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin attended grade school in Las Cruces  
and was a member of the cub scouts and the boy scouts of  
America; and

WHEREAS, during high school, Mr. Boykin lettered in four  
sports, was elected senior class president, participated in  
band and choral music and acted in junior and senior class  
plays; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin was awarded a full scholarship to  
New Mexico state university, where he excelled as a football  
player, playing quarterback, tight end, split end, defensive  
end and defensive back as needed; and

WHEREAS, while attending New Mexico state university,  
Mr. Boykin was a sports editor, yearbook editor, vice  
president of the student governing body and a cadet commander  
in the school's air force reserve officers' training corps;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, in 1954, Mr. Boykin graduated from New Mexico  
3 state university with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism  
4 and a master of arts degree in English; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin worked for newspapers in Las Cruces  
6 and Artesia before entering the United States air force; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1958, Mr. Boykin separated from the military  
8 and entered graduate school; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin married Jo Irving in July 1958, and  
10 they both started careers with the Las Cruces public schools,  
11 where Mr. Boykin was employed as the head football coach,  
12 English teacher, sponsor of the school paper and yearbook and  
13 activities director at various times; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1970, Mr. Boykin joined the Aggie football  
15 staff as a linebacker coach for three seasons, after which he  
16 worked as a state director for an insurance company for three  
17 years; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1976, Mr. Boykin and his family moved to  
19 Farmington, where Mr. Boykin was a high school assistant  
20 principal for eight years and principal for two years; and

21 WHEREAS, a highlight for Mr. Boykin was the unusual  
22 opportunity to present diplomas to his children, Marty, Doug  
23 and Ken, upon their graduations; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin took early retirement to care for  
25 his ailing wife, Jo, who passed away in 1992; and

1           WHEREAS, in 1996, Mr. Boykin married Jane Larson; and  
2           WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin was interim principal of Mesilla  
3 valley Christian school, where he served until the end of the  
4 1998 school year; and

5           WHEREAS, from 2001 to 2006, Mr. Boykin, a Republican,  
6 represented house district 37, which covered Dona Ana county;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin served on the education committee,  
9 the taxation and revenue committee, the transportation  
10 committee, the enrolling and engrossing committee and  
11 numerous interim committees during his terms in office; and

12           WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin served as coach of the house of  
13 representatives basketball team during his tenure as a  
14 legislator, leading the team to several important victories  
15 over the senate; and

16           WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin was honored by the *Albuquerque*  
17 *Journal* for his work in sponsoring bills that laid the  
18 groundwork for spaceport America; and

19           WHEREAS, Mr. Boykin chose not to run for office after  
20 2006, and he and his wife, Jane, spent lots of quality time  
21 at their cabin, joyous garde, at willow creek ranch, on the  
22 northern edge of the Gila wilderness;

23           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
24 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that William  
25 Edward Boykin be honored for his years of public service and

1 dedication to the residents of New Mexico; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
3 transmitted to the family of William Edward Boykin.

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