

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING HOUSE SPEAKER W. KEN MARTINEZ AND RECOGNIZING HIS
3 OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

4
5 WHEREAS, after nine terms of dedication to statewide
6 public service, former house speaker W. Ken Martinez will be
7 leaving the legislature and focusing his legal and political
8 expertise on serving Bernalillo county as its attorney; and

9 WHEREAS, a Democrat, Speaker Martinez will have
10 represented house district 69, which covers Bernalillo,
11 Cibola, McKinley, San Juan, Socorro and Valencia counties,
12 from 1999 to 2016; and

13 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez was born and raised in Grants,
14 New Mexico, a rural community where he was first elected to
15 represent; and

16 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez graduated from the university
17 of New Mexico in 1981 and was awarded a juris doctor degree
18 from the university of Notre Dame law school in 1984; and

19 WHEREAS, while pursuing his juris doctor degree, Speaker
20 Martinez also completed an international law program in
21 Mexico City and a program of international human rights law
22 at the London school of economics; and

23 WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2004, Speaker Martinez was the
24 house parliamentarian; and

25 WHEREAS, in 2005, Speaker Martinez was elected by his

1 fellow Democratic members to serve as New Mexico house
2 majority floor leader; and

3 WHEREAS, from 2013 to 2014, Speaker Martinez served as
4 speaker of the house, a position his father, Walter K.
5 Martinez, proudly held from 1971 to 1978; and

6 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez's roots in his district and
7 the state run deep; and

8 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez's connection to the challenges
9 that New Mexicans face inspires his legislative priorities of
10 fighting for economic opportunity and job creation, providing
11 a social safety net for our most vulnerable citizens and
12 ensuring that every child in New Mexico receives a quality
13 education; and

14 WHEREAS, among his key legislative victories, Speaker
15 Martinez counts his fight to reduce the tragic results of
16 driving-while-intoxicated deaths and injuries in New Mexico
17 as a major achievement in improving and protecting the lives
18 of New Mexicans; and

19 WHEREAS, understanding that quality education and
20 economic opportunity go hand in hand, Speaker Martinez
21 successfully spearheaded legislation to create a partnership
22 between the state and school districts to build and renovate
23 schools throughout the state; and

24 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is currently serving on the
25 national board of the state legislative leaders foundation

1 and was the 2010 recipient of the American humane
2 association's Rutherford T. Phillips award for excellence on
3 behalf of animal welfare; and

4 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is often described by his
5 legislative colleagues as gracious, a problem solver and a
6 man who demonstrates a commitment to inclusiveness; and

7 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is married to Monique Martinez
8 and is the proud father of four children and one
9 granddaughter;

10 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is a motorcycle enthusiast and
11 loves spending time baking with his granddaughter, Soleza,
12 and he is utterly dedicated to his family and friends;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Speaker W.
15 Ken Martinez be honored for his dedication to the people of
16 New Mexico and for his unstinting public service; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
18 transmitted to Speaker W. Ken Martinez.