

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO NAME A
3 PORTION OF NEW MEXICO STATE HIGHWAY 50 NEAR PECOS, NEW
4 MEXICO, AFTER REPRESENTATIVE LUCIANO "LUCKY" VARELA.

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6 WHEREAS, requests for the designation or dedication by
7 name of any department of transportation interchange or
8 highway are submitted to the state transportation commission
9 for approval; and

10 WHEREAS, a requested designation by name is intended as
11 a memorial to an event, a person or persons of historical
12 significance or is intended as an honor to a person of
13 national esteem; and

14 WHEREAS, Luciano "Lucky" Varela was born in Pecos, New
15 Mexico, on February 17, 1935 to Catalina and Celestino
16 Varela; and

17 WHEREAS, Lucky was raised in Pecos, graduated from Pecos
18 high school, was enrolled at the university of New Mexico
19 and, in 1957, joined the United States army; and

20 WHEREAS, following his military service, Lucky graduated
21 from the college of Santa Fe with a degree in accounting and
22 then earned a law degree from La Salle university; and

23 WHEREAS, Lucky gave many decades of service to the state
24 and retired from the department of finance and administration
25 in 1986; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1987, Lucky was elected to represent house
2 district forty-eight in the house of representatives; and

3 WHEREAS, Representative Varela's dedicated advocacy and
4 expertise in finance and budget matters earned him the
5 greatest respect from his colleagues on the legislative
6 finance committee, which he chaired for many years, and from
7 the legislature as a whole; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Varela retired in 2016 after a
9 thirty-year-long career in the legislature; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Varela died on September 7,
11 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Varela is held in national
13 esteem for his illustrious career in public service; and

14 WHEREAS, a fitting honor to recognize Representative
15 Luciano "Lucky" Varela for his many decades of public service
16 would be to have a portion of New Mexico highway 50, near his
17 birthplace of Pecos, New Mexico, named after him;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state
20 transportation commission be requested to name a portion of
21 New Mexico highway 50, near Pecos, New Mexico, after
22 Representative Luciano "Lucky" Varela; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the secretary of transportation and each state
25 transportation commissioner. _____