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HOUSE MEMORIAL 69

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Harry Garcia and D. Wonda Johnson

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO NAME A BRIDGE
LOCATED ON INTERSTATE 40, EXIT 47, AT THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE,
AFTER JACKSON GIBSON.

WHEREAS, requests for the designation or dedication by
name of any department of transportation bridge are submitted
to the state transportation commission for approval; and

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

WHEREAS, Jackson Gibson, a lifelong leader and community
advocate, died August 18, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Jackson was born in Thoreau, New Mexico, into the
Sage Brush Hill Clan born for the Two Who Came to the Water

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1 Clan; and

2 WHEREAS, Jackson enlisted in the United States army and
3 served two tours during the Vietnam War; and

4 WHEREAS, Jackson's first tour of duty was from July 1966
5 to July 1967 and his second tour of duty was from January 1968
6 to December 1969; and

7 WHEREAS, Jackson was stationed in Pleiku, South Vietnam;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Jackson was assigned to the first airborne army
10 brigade first air cavalry division; and

11 WHEREAS, Jackson was a door gunner on a Huey gunship; and

12 WHEREAS, as a staunch advocate for his fellow veterans,
13 Jackson was instrumental in an ongoing effort to locate a
14 veterans' center in Thoreau; and

15 WHEREAS, Jackson was a public servant who was independent-
16 minded, strong-willed and outspoken, but was always a supporter
17 of Native Americans, McKinley county residents, all New
18 Mexicans and Americans; and

19 WHEREAS, Jackson was a man of strong character with a
20 sense of humor and an outreaching spirit; and

21 WHEREAS, Jackson served as director of the Navajo film and
22 media program and director of the department of Navajo veterans
23 affairs and in several executive positions with the Thoreau
24 chapter; and

25 WHEREAS, in 2008, Jackson was appointed by Governor Bill

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1 Richardson to the state transportation commission to represent
2 district 6; and

3 WHEREAS, a fitting honor to recognize Jackson Gibson, a
4 man held in high esteem for his life of public service and
5 advocacy for veterans, would be to have a bridge named after
6 him;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
8 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state
9 transportation commission be requested to name a bridge located
10 on interstate 40, exit 47, at the continental divide, after
11 Jackson Gibson; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the secretary of the state transportation
14 commission.