

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING REPRESENTATIVE TOMÁS E. SALAZAR AND RECOGNIZING HIS  
3 SIGNIFICANT SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP TO NEW MEXICO.

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5 WHEREAS, after four terms and eight years as a state  
6 representative for District 70, Tomás E. Salazar, a Democrat,  
7 is retiring at the end of 2020; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was first elected to the  
9 house of representatives in 2012 in a district that covers  
10 parts of San Miguel, Santa Fe and Torrance counties; and

11 WHEREAS, to win the District 70 seat in 2012,  
12 Representative Salazar ousted a long-time representative; and

13 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar again defeated Richard  
14 Vigil in 2014 and ran unopposed in the 2016 and 2018  
15 elections; and

16 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar focused his campaign on  
17 what he considered urgent issues that mattered to his  
18 constituents, such as education, water supply and economic  
19 development; and

20 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is a former New Mexico  
21 highlands university professor who earned a bachelor of  
22 science in mathematics from New Mexico highlands university  
23 in 1965, a master's degree in mathematics from the university  
24 of Montana in 1969 and a Ph.D. in mathematics from the  
25 university of New Mexico in 1976; and

1           WHEREAS, Representative Salazar retired after holding  
2 various positions at New Mexico highlands university,  
3 including dean of the college of arts and sciences, as well  
4 as positions at the university of New Mexico, Sandia national  
5 laboratories and elsewhere; and

6           WHEREAS, respected as a savvy numbers cruncher,  
7 Representative Salazar put his expertise to work on the house  
8 appropriations and finance committee, of which he was a  
9 member from 2013 through the 2020 legislative session; and

10          WHEREAS, Representative Salazar also was a proud member  
11 of the higher education committee in 2019 and member of the  
12 house education committee from 2013 through the 2020  
13 legislative session and a member of the house enrolling and  
14 engrossing committee from 2013 to 2014; and

15          WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was a member of the  
16 house special investigatory committee on the consideration of  
17 an impeachment process from 2015 to 2016; and

18          WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was very active on the  
19 investments and pensions oversight committee, serving as an  
20 advisory member from 2015 to 2016, the committee chair from  
21 2017 to 2018 and as a member in 2019; and

22          WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was an advisory member  
23 on the New Mexico finance authority oversight committee from  
24 2015 to 2018 and served as chair in 2019; and

25          WHEREAS, other interim committees on which

1 Representative Salazar served were the land grant committee,  
2 the legislative education study committee, the legislative  
3 finance committee, the revenue stabilization and tax policy  
4 committee and the water and natural resources committee; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has served as an  
6 integral leader of the New Mexico association of educational  
7 retirees, AARP-New Mexico, the volunteer engagement advisory  
8 council of AARP and habitat for humanity - Las Vegas; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was a lifelong member of  
10 the national education association; and

11 WHEREAS, from the beginning of his legislative career,  
12 Representative Salazar's approach was to get local entities  
13 to join forces across the region to approach issues from a  
14 region-based standpoint, rather than as individuals; and

15 WHEREAS, as an educator, Representative Salazar is  
16 passionate about increasing the opportunity for accessible,  
17 quality public education in New Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has focused on  
19 establishing policy and infrastructure to ensure sustainable  
20 water quantities for safe domestic and agricultural use, and  
21 has favored a policy to protect the environment while  
22 balancing the concerns of extractive industries; and

23 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is highly regarded by  
24 his legislative colleagues, staff and the public; and

25 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is respectful of

1 differing opinions and is always willing to discuss issues  
2 with those holding differing viewpoints; and

3 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar brought a wealth of  
4 expertise to the legislature, leaving a stellar reputation  
5 behind;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that  
8 Representative Tomás E. Salazar be honored for his  
9 significant service and leadership to New Mexico; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to Tomás E. Salazar. \_\_\_\_\_

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