

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, Representative Salazar ran a highly effective  
12 campaign and first won the District 70 seat in 2012, faced  
13 opposition in 2014 and ran unopposed in the 2016 and 2018  
14 elections; and

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

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

25 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar retired after holding

1 various positions at New Mexico highlands university,  
2 including dean of the college of arts and sciences, as well  
3 as positions at the university of New Mexico, Sandia national  
4 laboratories and elsewhere; and

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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, other interim committees on which  
25 Representative Salazar served were the land grant committee,

1 the legislative education study committee, the legislative  
2 finance committee, the revenue stabilization and tax policy  
3 committee and the water and natural resources committee; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is respectful of  
25 differing opinions and is always willing to discuss issues

1 with those holding differing viewpoints; and

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

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

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

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