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HOUSE MEMORIAL 34

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

G. Andrés Romero and Antonio Maestas

A MEMORIAL

HONORING KEN SANCHEZ AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO ALBUQUERQUE'S WESTSIDE AND TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Ken Sanchez, a lifelong resident of Albuquerque, spent over forty years on the Westside until his death on January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Ken was a graduate of the West Mesa high school class of 1974; and

WHEREAS, Ken operated the Gilbert Sanchez tax accounting firm on west Central avenue in Albuquerque and was also the president of Ken Sanchez and associates realty; and

WHEREAS, Ken had the honor of serving the public as a Bernalillo county commissioner from 1995 to 2002 and as an Albuquerque city councilor for district 1 from 2005 until his sudden passing; and

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1           WHEREAS, Ken served as Albuquerque city council president  
2 in 2010, 2014 and 2018; and

3           WHEREAS, Ken also served the city by working toward a  
4 balanced and responsible budget as chair of the committee-of-  
5 the-whole in 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2011; and

6           WHEREAS, Ken was also appointed chair of Albuquerque's  
7 finance and government committee in 2012; and

8           WHEREAS, in addition to other boards and committees, Ken  
9 was appointed to the Albuquerque-Bernalillo county water  
10 utility authority and was elected chair in 2012; and

11           WHEREAS, Ken was committed to improving the lives of  
12 Albuquerque's Westside residents and the city as a whole and  
13 worked tirelessly with city residents and the Albuquerque  
14 police department to address public safety needs; and

15           WHEREAS, among his many efforts, Ken worked with the  
16 community, the city council, mayors, governors, legislators,  
17 other elected officials and local businesses to bring much-  
18 needed economic retail development to the Westside, offering  
19 more jobs and places for people to shop near their homes; and

20           WHEREAS, Ken worked with the Westside community and  
21 legislators on a number of projects, including fire station 7,  
22 the Patrick J. Baca library, the university of New Mexico  
23 family health clinic, the Central and Unser transit center, the  
24 nuevo Atrisco development and the Unser crossing project; and

25           WHEREAS, other projects Ken supported include improvements

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1 at the Taylor Ranch library, the Joan Jones community center at  
2 Pat Hurley park, the renovated West Mesa community center and  
3 the Nusenda community stadium; and

4 WHEREAS, Ken worked to bring the Jennifer Riordan spark  
5 kindness sports complex to serve the growing population of the  
6 Westside; and

7 WHEREAS, Ken cared about parks and places for families to  
8 spend time and worked on infrastructure needs as well as  
9 recreational needs throughout the city; and

10 WHEREAS, Ken contributed to beautification and driver and  
11 pedestrian safety on the Westside with median landscaping and  
12 traffic calming measures on Unser boulevard, Ladera drive and a  
13 number of residential streets in district 1; and

14 WHEREAS, Ken supported public improvement districts,  
15 including the lower petroglyphs public improvement district, as  
16 well as a medical campus for the underserved areas of the  
17 Westside; and

18 WHEREAS, Ken enjoyed spending time with people over salsa  
19 and chips with a cold iced tea; and

20 WHEREAS, Ken lived to watch his granddaughter play  
21 basketball and enjoyed seeing his grandson starting to master  
22 the game; and

23 WHEREAS, Ken enjoyed spending time with his partner,  
24 Cynthia, in their backyard; and

25 WHEREAS, Ken's love was basketball, although he enjoyed

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1 watching, following and talking about all sports; and

2 WHEREAS, Ken lived life to the fullest and enjoyed every  
3 moment he was given; and

4 WHEREAS, Ken looked at the positive side of life and  
5 welcomed everyone as his friend; and

6 WHEREAS, Ken genuinely cared about others, his city and  
7 his state; and

8 WHEREAS, Ken is survived by his daughter, Jaclyn Sanchez-  
9 Zamora, and her husband, Juaquin; his son, Christian Arias  
10 Sanchez; his brother, Steven Arias; his partner, Cynthia  
11 Martinez, and her daughter, Ashley; and an extended family; and

12 WHEREAS, Ken touched the lives of many people through his  
13 work as a public servant and the pride with which he served his  
14 community;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Ken Sanchez be  
17 recognized for his outstanding service to Albuquerque's  
18 Westside and to New Mexico; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
20 transmitted to the family of Ken Sanchez.