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SENATE MEMORIAL 50
56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY
Peter Wirth and Nancy Rodriguez

A MEMORIAL
HONORING SIXTY-SIX YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND DECLARING
FEBRUARY 17, 2023 "SARAH GRACE DURAN DAY" IN THE SENATE.

WHEREAS, Sarah Grace Duran was a lifelong resident of
Santa Fe and was known and loved by many; and

WHEREAS, Sarah was born on July 11, 1928 to Augustine
"Tinnie" and Margaret "Maggie" Grace and was the eldest sister
to Dolores, Julian, Pita, Herman, Gus, Veronica and Patrick;
and

WHEREAS, Sarah and her beloved husband, Ambrose F. Duran,
were married for sixty-eight years and had a loving family; and

WHEREAS, Sarah and Ambrose had six children: Linda and
her husband, Larry; Jerry; Dolores; Mark and his wife, Linda;
Adela; and Patricia; and

WHEREAS, they had seven grandchildren: Larry, Jr. and his

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1 wife, Linda; Brian and his wife, Johanna; Kellie and her
2 husband, Rob; Jerome; Joseph and his wife, Jacqueline; Jared
3 Ambrose; and Ana-Adela; and they had six great-grandchildren:
4 Jacob, Gregory, Sophia, Robbie Jerome, Amila Mae and Ayanna
5 Lynnae; and

6 WHEREAS, Sarah was a people person who enjoyed sixty-six
7 years as a public servant, beginning her career as the Santa Fe
8 county deputy county clerk from 1951 to 1954; and

9 WHEREAS, Sarah then worked as a service representative
10 with the social security administration, where she handled
11 every claim with deep and personal interest and was so widely
12 respected for her dedication that she was honored in the
13 *Congressional Record* when she retired after thirty-two years of
14 service; and

15 WHEREAS, Sarah then began another career in the New Mexico
16 state capitol with the legislative building services
17 information and tours office as an information specialist,
18 where she quickly became a cherished mainstay, interacting with
19 governors, legislators, maintenance staff, residents and
20 tourists alike, all known to Sarah as "hita" or "hito",
21 regardless of their age or status; and

22 WHEREAS, Sarah finally retired on December 31, 2017, after
23 twenty-four years with the legislative building services at the
24 spirited age of eighty-nine; and

25 WHEREAS, a plaque will be placed in the capitol

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1 information and tours office in honor of Sarah; and

2 WHEREAS, Sarah was also active in her community, serving
3 as the first Hispanic appointed in 1978 to the Santa Fe public
4 library board of trustees and also serving on the first board
5 of the Santa Fe community housing trust and contributing to
6 numerous charities throughout her life; and

7 WHEREAS, Sarah passed away on March 24, 2020, leaving a
8 legacy of an extraordinary sixty-six-year career as a public
9 servant and as an exceptionally loving and caring wife,
10 daughter, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister,
11 colleague and friend;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
13 OF NEW MEXICO that it extend its appreciation to Sarah Grace
14 Duran for her sixty-six years of public service in Santa Fe;
15 and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that February 17, 2023 be declared
17 "Sarah Grace Duran Day" in the senate; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the family of Sarah Grace Duran and the
20 governor.