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A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FORMER STATE SENATOR
RAY LEGER.

WHEREAS, Ray Leger, a resident of Las Vegas, New Mexico,
passed away on October 14, 2009 at the age of eighty-four;
and

WHEREAS, Ray was born on January 6, 1925, the eleventh
of fourteen children, to Francisco and Isabel Leger, a
ranching and farming family; and

WHEREAS, Ray proudly and honorably served his country in
the United States Army at the end of World War II; and

WHEREAS, Ray attended New Mexico Highlands University on
the G.I. bill, where he was on the dean's list and listed in
Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges, and where
he earned bachelor's and master's degrees; and

WHEREAS, Ray had a long career in education throughout
northern New Mexico and became the longest-serving
superintendent of schools for the West Las Vegas Public
School District, overseeing the construction of modern
facilities and obtaining a significant increase in federal
funding and programs in mathematics and the sciences; and

WHEREAS, Ray, through the United States State
Department, spent a year sharing his knowledge on education
administration with the Costa Rican Ministry of Education;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Ray was very active in his community and served
3 as a New Mexico state senator from 1973 to 1980; and

4 WHEREAS, Ray used the political process to improve the
5 quality of life of individuals; and

6 WHEREAS, Ray's legislative legacy in education and
7 health still beneficially impacts New Mexicans today; and

8 WHEREAS, Ray championed the Bilingual Multicultural
9 Education Act in 1973, which still forms the foundation for
10 multicultural education in New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, Ray's life, which was dedicated to family,
12 politics and public service, is worth recognizing and
13 celebrating;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the life and contributions of Ray
16 Leger be recognized; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that condolences be extended to
18 the family and friends of Ray Leger; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
20 transmitted to the family of Ray Leger. _____

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Page 2

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