

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING ERNEST HENRY CHAVEZ AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING  
3 SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

4  
5 WHEREAS, Ernest Henry Chavez, a democrat who served as a  
6 state representative for district 12 in Bernalillo county  
7 from 2004 to 2014, died on June 29, 2016; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was born on February 6, 1937 in  
9 Albuquerque, New Mexico; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez graduated from Albuquerque high  
11 school in 1957 and attended the Albuquerque business college  
12 in 1969; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez and his wife, Rosanna Chavez, were  
14 married for fifty-seven years; and

15 WHEREAS, Ernest and Rosanna Chavez had six children:  
16 Arlene, Elaine, Ronald, Ernest, Jr., Randy and Ralph; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1996, Mr. Chavez retired as a surveyor from  
18 the city of Albuquerque's engineering division; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez served twenty-eight years with the  
20 New Mexico national guard and United States army reserve; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was a Democratic party ward and  
22 precinct chair for thirty years; and

23 WHEREAS, on September 28, 2004, Mr. Chavez was appointed  
24 to the term ending in 2004 to replace James O. Taylor, who  
25 resigned from his house seat when he was appointed to the

1 senate; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was elected for five terms in 2004,  
3 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez represented the rural district that  
5 covers the far south valley of Albuquerque, Pajarito mesa and  
6 a remote area west of the Rio Puerco; and

7 WHEREAS, during his legislative career, Mr. Chavez  
8 served on the taxation and revenue committee from 2005 to  
9 2014; the transportation and public works committee from 2007  
10 to 2010 and served as vice chair from 2011 to 2014; the  
11 transportation committee from 2005 to 2006; and the enrolling  
12 and engrossing committee from 2005 to 2006; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez also served on several interim  
14 committees, including the economic and rural development  
15 committee from 2007 to 2014; the Mortgage Finance Authority  
16 Act oversight committee as a member from 2005 to 2012,  
17 serving as chair in 2013 and vice chair in 2014; and the New  
18 Mexico finance authority oversight committee from 2013 to  
19 2014; and

20 WHEREAS, during the interim, Mr. Chavez served as an  
21 advisory member on several committees; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2005, Mr. Chavez was instrumental in getting  
23 one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) appropriated to  
24 purchase a site for a planned recreational area in the south  
25 valley; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was unable to attend the thirty-day  
2 2014 legislative session due to health issues caused by the  
3 bite of a brown recluse spider; and

4           WHEREAS, citing his age and health problems, Mr. Chavez  
5 did not seek reelection in 2014; and

6           WHEREAS, during his legislative tenure, Mr. Chavez was a  
7 strong advocate for preserving the south valley of  
8 Albuquerque's rural and agricultural way of life; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was a lifetime member of the  
10 Catholic church, and was very active in his community; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez cited his major personal  
12 accomplishment as a lifetime of hard work as a good father  
13 and husband;

14           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Ernest Henry  
16 Chavez be remembered for his years of public service and for  
17 his dedication to the residents of New Mexico; and

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
19 transmitted to the family of Ernest Henry Chavez.  
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