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HOUSE MEMORIAL 121

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Trujillo and Joanne J. Ferrary

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING MARCH 14, 2017 "CHUCK DAVIS DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Charles "Chuck" Davis, a longtime member of the Las Cruces public schools board of education, died March 9, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was born in 1934 in St. Charles, Illinois, and moved to New Mexico in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis graduated from Los Alamos high school and earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the New Mexico college of agriculture and mechanic arts, now known as New Mexico state university; and

WHEREAS, he served in the United States air force for twenty years, and after retiring from the military, Mr. Davis

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1 earned his teaching credentials from the university of Arizona,
2 taught elementary school and taught math and science at the
3 mid-school level in Arizona for four years; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis and his family returned to Las Cruces,
5 where he worked for twenty years at White Sands missile range
6 before retiring again; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis became active in the Las Cruces
8 community and was well known throughout New Mexico as an
9 advocate for students, teachers and education; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was first elected to the Las Cruces
11 public schools board of education in 2001, and was reelected in
12 2005, 2009 and 2013; and

13 WHEREAS, after sixteen years of service, Mr. Davis
14 finished his fourth term in office on February 28, 2017, and
15 retired from the board; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis also served on the Dona Ana community
17 college advisory board as president, vice president and
18 secretary; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was an active member of the New Mexico
20 school boards association, and in 2016, the organization named
21 Mr. Davis the New Mexico board member of the year; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis also served as vice president for the
23 New Mexico school boards association's region seven, which
24 encompasses the Las Cruces district, and in that capacity, Mr.
25 Davis testified before numerous legislative committees,

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1 focusing on improvements for education throughout the state;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, as a member of the local school board, Mr. Davis
4 championed many improvements within the Las Cruces public
5 schools, including improving the graduation rate, the
6 construction of two early college high schools and the
7 district's acquisition of the challenger learning center, which
8 supports science, technology, engineering and math instruction;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, throughout the years, Mr. Davis exhibited strong
11 leadership when ensuring that school bond elections and mill
12 levies were held, and passed, in order to build new schools and
13 renovate older ones; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was dedicated to his family and the
15 students of Las Cruces public schools; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis is remembered fondly for his dry sense
17 of humor, and behind his gruffness, he exhibited a soft side;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, friends and colleagues also recall his uncanny
20 knack for reading people and his great insight into the
21 motivations of people; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was an active participant in the
23 Democratic party; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis is survived by his wife, Helen Davis, a
25 retired Las Cruces public schools educator, and several of

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1 their children are also educators;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 14, 2017
4 be declared "Chuck Davis Day" in the house of representatives;
5 and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Charles "Chuck" Davis be
7 recognized for his outstanding service to New Mexico; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the family of Charles "Chuck" Davis.