

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REMEMBERING PATRICK FRANCIS TYRRELL AND HONORING HIS  
3 OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO SOCIAL WORKERS AND NEW MEXICO.

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5 WHEREAS, Patrick Francis Tyrrell, a social worker,  
6 educator and activist, was a leader of the effort to enact  
7 the state's Social Work Practice Act and was a tireless  
8 advocate on many fronts, including repeal of the death  
9 penalty, the rights of Native Americans and children and  
10 behavioral health care for all New Mexicans; and

11 WHEREAS, Patrick was a graduate of his beloved  
12 university of Notre Dame and received a master of social work  
13 degree from Loyola university and master's degrees in  
14 education and public administration from the university of  
15 New Mexico; and

16 WHEREAS, Patrick was married to his wife, Maiya, for  
17 thirty-seven years; and

18 WHEREAS, Patrick was a fifth grade teacher at Saint  
19 Joseph school, an elementary school in Winslow, Arizona, and  
20 then a social worker in Shiprock, Arizona, on the Navajo  
21 Nation; and

22 WHEREAS, Patrick was also the director of the Los Alamos  
23 council on alcoholism, where he established new programs to  
24 address problems of chemically dependent high school students  
25 in Los Alamos county; and

1           WHEREAS, Patrick also developed and delivered a  
2 community-based substance abuse program, which received the  
3 prestigious governor's award for exemplary substance abuse  
4 prevention programming; and

5           WHEREAS, Patrick was appointed executive director of the  
6 national association of social workers, New Mexico chapter,  
7 in March 1987, and he held that position until his retirement  
8 in December 2015; and

9           WHEREAS, in 2003, Patrick was a part of major  
10 unemployment reform efforts, and in 2004 and 2005, Patrick  
11 helped to organize campaigns that significantly reduced cuts  
12 to medicaid; and

13           WHEREAS, Patrick collaborated with health action New  
14 Mexico to pass the landmark Patient Protection Act,  
15 guaranteeing managed care consumers a bill of rights; and

16           WHEREAS, along with the New Mexico human needs  
17 coordinating council, Patrick advocated successfully for the  
18 establishment of a public housing trust fund; and

19           WHEREAS, in 2009, Patrick played a significant  
20 leadership role with the New Mexico coalition to repeal the  
21 death penalty, resulting in the end of capital punishment in  
22 New Mexico; and

23           WHEREAS, Patrick served on many boards of nonprofit  
24 organizations, including the New Mexico human needs  
25 coordinating council, health action New Mexico, the New

1 Mexico alcohol program directors association, the New Mexico  
2 coalition to repeal the death penalty and the southwest  
3 behavioral health independent practice association; and

4 WHEREAS, in April 2017, Patrick received a lifetime  
5 achievement certificate of appreciation for his commitment,  
6 dedication and loyalty for his nineteen years of service on  
7 the board of directors at la familia-namaste; and

8 WHEREAS, throughout the years, Patrick developed close  
9 working relationships with New Mexico legislators from both  
10 sides of the aisle to educate them on social work issues and  
11 their impact on New Mexicans and to help draft legislation to  
12 remedy those issues; and

13 WHEREAS, in New Mexico, there are now social workers in  
14 the house of representatives and in the senate who have  
15 benefited from Patrick's mentorship and encouragement to take  
16 advocacy to the next level; and

17 WHEREAS, Patrick was a pillar in the social work  
18 community and was greatly respected as a leader and an  
19 invaluable resource to his colleagues and students and to  
20 legislators; and

21 WHEREAS, Patrick was a mentor to many social work  
22 students, was a believer in people and fought for the greater  
23 good with his unwavering conviction that, together, social  
24 workers could make things better for everyone; and

25 WHEREAS, Patrick died on September 1, 2017, and he will

1 be greatly missed by everyone who knew and loved him;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Patrick  
4 Francis Tyrrell be remembered and honored for his significant  
5 public service contributions to New Mexico; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
7 transmitted to the family of Patrick Francis Tyrrell and the  
8 New Mexico chapter of the national association of social  
9 workers.

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