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HOUSE MEMORIAL 68

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018**

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING CHARLES MACKAY FOR HIS ARTISTIC AND BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE SANTA FE OPERA UPON HIS ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS INTENTION TO STEP DOWN FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF THE OPERA.

WHEREAS, Charles MacKay, general director of the Santa Fe opera, has announced that he will end his distinguished tenure at the helm of the opera on September 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his departure, MacKay will have been the general director for ten years and will have served the opera for twenty cumulative years, and his association with the opera will have spanned fifty years; and

WHEREAS, MacKay began his life-long love of opera at the age of nine with his first Santa Fe opera youth night performance of *Die Fledermaus*; and

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1           WHEREAS, MacKay started his opera career at the Santa Fe  
2 opera as a thirteen-year-old parking lot attendant and then,  
3 working for John Crosby, the founding general director of the  
4 Santa Fe opera, MacKay went on to positions as a french horn  
5 player in the opera orchestra, backstage worker, administrative  
6 staff member, box office manager, development manager and  
7 business office manager; and

8           WHEREAS, as general director, MacKay has provided for  
9 unwavering artistic excellence, financial stability and  
10 beautiful and comprehensive facility improvements at the Santa  
11 Fe opera; and

12           WHEREAS, under MacKay's business direction, the Santa Fe  
13 opera's net assets have doubled to one hundred twenty-one  
14 million dollars (\$121,000,000) and its operating budget has  
15 increased to twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000); and

16           WHEREAS, following MacKay's artistic direction, the Santa  
17 Fe opera has furthered its bold and innovative repertoire,  
18 commissioned five main stage world premiere operas, including  
19 *Cold Mountain* and *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*, and presented  
20 fifty-one productions of forty-eight different operas; and

21           WHEREAS, MacKay has expanded the Santa Fe opera's  
22 educational and community outreach initiatives, serving fifty-  
23 two thousand children and adults in New Mexico, and has  
24 overseen the development of young artists through  
25 apprenticeship programs for singers and technicians; and

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