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HOUSE MEMORIAL 6

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

SHERYL M WILLIAMS

A MEMORIAL

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA JORDAN, ACKNOWLEDGING
HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MOURNING HER PASSING.

WHEREAS, Barbara Jordan was raised in an impoverished area
of downtown Houston, the daughter of a Baptist minister; and

WHEREAS, she studied political science and history at the
then all-Black Texas southern university in Houston and, after
graduating, attended and graduated from Boston university law
school in 1959; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, Barbara Jordan was the first Black woman
elected to the Texas legislature, and in 1972, she went on to
win a seat in the United States congress; and

WHEREAS, during her six years in congress, Ms. Jordan
distinguished herself as an articulate and well-informed
speaker, an arch defender of the United States constitution and

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1 a calm voice in a tumultuous time; and

2 WHEREAS, upon her retirement from congress, Ms. Jordan
3 joined the staff of Lyndon B. Johnson school of public affairs
4 at the university of Texas, where she taught political ethics
5 and was a recognized scholar in constitutional law; and

6 WHEREAS, during her lifetime, Barbara Jordan overcame
7 poverty and prejudice to become a crusader for truth and a
8 champion of justice; and

9 WHEREAS, she overcame numerous physical obstacles,
10 including multiple sclerosis, leukemia and diabetes; and

11 WHEREAS, Barbara Jordan will long be remembered for her
12 eloquent speeches and her strict concept of public officials and
13 public trust;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the life of
16 Congresswoman Barbara Jordan be honored, her accomplishments
17 acknowledged and her passing mourned; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all members of elected bodies
19 remember and abide by the principles of public trust and
20 dedication epitomized by the life of Congresswoman Barbara
21 Jordan.