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HOUSE MEMORIAL 5

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Jim W. Hall

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON
THE PASSING OF REPRESENTATIVE JEANNETTE O. WALLACE.

WHEREAS, Jeannette O. Wallace of Los Alamos died April 8,
2011; and

WHEREAS, she was born January 16, 1934 in Scottsdale,
Arizona, where she grew up on a small farm and from an early
age found joy in the Methodist church; and

WHEREAS, she received a bachelor's degree in medical
technology from Arizona state university in 1955; and

WHEREAS, she met and married Terry C. Wallace when both
were students in Arizona, and upon graduation, they moved to
Ames, Iowa, where Terry earned his Ph.D.; and

WHEREAS, the Wallaces moved to Los Alamos in 1958; and

WHEREAS, Jeannette raised five children before her first

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1 run for political office in 1982, when she was elected to the
2 Los Alamos county council, and served until 1988, when she
3 began lobbying on behalf of Los Alamos county before the state
4 legislature; and

5 WHEREAS, as a result of her lobbying, she decided to run
6 for and was first elected to the state legislature in 1990; and

7 WHEREAS, she was appointed to the house appropriations and
8 finance committee during her first term and was a member during
9 her tenure in the house, characterizing that committee as the
10 most valuable to serve on, and she said she did not sponsor
11 many bills because that would have required her to miss many
12 committee hearings, which she felt were vital to be present
13 for, because that was where the action was; and

14 WHEREAS, she also was a member of the house health and
15 government affairs committee and the radioactive and hazardous
16 materials committee; and

17 WHEREAS, she was a recipient of many awards and
18 recognitions, most notably the "Flor de las Flores" award from
19 the Hispanic round table in 2000; and

20 WHEREAS, she also received the legislator of the year
21 award from the New Mexico association of counties, the
22 community colleges association support award, the Los Alamos
23 firefighters award, the independent community colleges support
24 award, the association of commerce and industry business star
25 award, the recycle New Mexico legislator of the year award, the

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1 Rio Arriba county appreciation award, the tribute to women
2 award and many others; and

3 WHEREAS, she was noted for her bipartisan commitment to
4 her district and the communities of northern New Mexico and was
5 especially appreciated for her commitment of legislative
6 appropriations to the math and science academy, which served so
7 many teachers across northern New Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, in addition to her many awards and many years of
9 service to her district and all New Mexicans, she is remembered
10 by her colleagues for her good-natured irascibility, her
11 unrelenting hard work, her honesty and her fierce commitment to
12 this house that led all to respect her and so many to love her,
13 so that we all hope to leave a legacy such as hers; and

14 WHEREAS, she is survived by her husband, Terry C. Wallace;
15 her sons, Terry Junior and Tim; her daughters, Sheryl and
16 Janice; nine grandchildren; one great grandchild; and many
17 friends and colleagues throughout New Mexico;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that condolences be
20 extended to the family and friends of Jeannette O. Wallace, a
21 loving and truly devoted servant of New Mexico; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the family of Jeannette O. Wallace.