

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 115

2 **53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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9
10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THAT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE FIFTY-THIRD
12 LEGISLATURE BE PROCLAIMED "THE MEMORIAL SESSION" IN THE SENATE
13 AND THAT EVERY SESSION AFTER "THE MEMORIAL SESSION" BE
14 PROCLAIMED "MEMORIAL SESSION II", "MEMORIAL SESSION III",
15 "MEMORIAL SESSION IV", ET CETERA, IF SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATIVE
16 SESSIONS PRODUCE MORE MEMORIALS THAN THE PREVIOUS ONES.

17
18 WHEREAS, decades ago, the introduction of senate memorials
19 was a rare occurrence, carrying much significance and
20 memorializing prestigious members of New Mexico communities;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, over the last several years, the number of
23 memorials introduced in the senate has dramatically increased;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, in 1997, just fifteen senate memorials were

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1 introduced; and

2 WHEREAS, in 2016, during the sixty-day session, there were
3 one hundred eleven senate memorials introduced; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2018, at the beginning of the last week of
5 this thirty-day session, there have been one hundred thirteen,
6 and counting, senate memorials introduced and only sixty-three
7 have passed; and

8 WHEREAS, forty of those memorials that passed named a day
9 in the legislature, ten more than the allotted thirty days, and
10 two memorials declared entire weeks in the legislature; and

11 WHEREAS, there are still three and one-half days remaining
12 in the 2018 session in which to introduce even more senate
13 memorials; and

14 WHEREAS, at this current rate, the senate is on pace to
15 introduce nearly two hundred memorials during the 2019
16 legislative session; and

17 WHEREAS, the senate has spent an average of two hours per
18 day debating and passing memorials, which is time not spent
19 working on substantive legislation, to the detriment of the
20 taxpayers of the state; and

21 WHEREAS, the people of New Mexico would be disappointed to
22 know that their elected senators are spending two hours per day
23 debating memorials that carry no legal weight; and

24 WHEREAS, in the past, memorials were used to recognize
25 significant people, while currently, senate memorials are being

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1 used as a way to circumvent the legislative process; and

2 WHEREAS, if the senate wants to change public policy, it
3 should be done through meaningful legislation with full debate;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
5 OF NEW MEXICO that the second session of the fifty-third
6 legislature be proclaimed "The Memorial Session" and that every
7 session after "The Memorial Session" shall be known as
8 "Memorial Session II", "Memorial Session III", "Memorial
9 Session IV", et cetera, if subsequent sessions of the
10 legislature produce more memorials than previous ones, until
11 the legislature gets back to the business of the people of New
12 Mexico; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to each member of the senate, except for those
15 members who have exercised restraint by not introducing any
16 memorials.

