

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GARREY E. CARRUTHERS,
3 PH.D.

4
5 WHEREAS, Garrey E. Carruthers, Ph.D., who has risen to
6 the top leadership post of every enterprise in which he has
7 been involved, will retire as chancellor and president of
8 New Mexico state university, the crown jewel of New Mexico's
9 universities and the state's land grant institution, on
10 July 1, 2018; and

11 WHEREAS, Chancellor Carruthers refers to the campus as
12 his "Aggie stomping grounds", having first attended there in
13 1957, and having met his wife, Kathy, as a student there; and

14 WHEREAS, he obtained both a baccalaureate degree and
15 master's degree while attending New Mexico state university;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, he left New Mexico for a brief time, arriving
18 in Ames, Iowa, to garner a doctorate in economics from Iowa
19 state university; and

20 WHEREAS, he was encouraged to apply for and was selected
21 as a white house fellow, undergoing a prestigious and
22 competitive selection process, and was appointed to serve
23 with the Honorable Earl Butz, United States secretary of
24 agriculture; and

25 WHEREAS, he returned to teaching, where he was an

1 award-winning teacher, beloved by most students and
2 considered a consummate advisor and mentor; and

3 WHEREAS, he served as state chair of the Republican
4 party of New Mexico from 1977 to 1979; and

5 WHEREAS, he was nominated by President Ronald Reagan to
6 be an assistant secretary of the United States department of
7 the interior, overseeing the bureau of land management,
8 bureau of reclamation and office of water policy, serving in
9 Washington, D.C., for four years; and

10 WHEREAS, he returned to the land of enchantment after
11 being recruited by a group of business people to seek the
12 governor's seat in 1986; and

13 WHEREAS, he won handily on a ticket with Jack Stahl, a
14 former member of both chambers of the New Mexico legislature,
15 becoming New Mexico's twenty-seventh governor; and

16 WHEREAS, he selected the highly regarded Maralyn Budke,
17 former director of the legislative finance committee, as his
18 chief of staff; and

19 WHEREAS, he took the oath of office in the New Mexico
20 supreme court building, resided in the roundhouse for three
21 years and finished his term on the top floor of the public
22 employees retirement association building; and

23 WHEREAS, he was known to be a congenial governor,
24 respectful of the balance of powers, but occasionally having
25 some fun with house members; and

1 WHEREAS, he and Kathy Carruthers received the king and
2 queen of Spain, Juan Carlos and Sophia, on their only visit
3 to New Mexico in 1987; and

4 WHEREAS, he was selected to oversee the first free
5 elections to be held in Romania; and

6 WHEREAS, he signed significant legislation to include
7 recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. day, opportunities for
8 minority doctoral programs and fostering research and
9 development; and

10 WHEREAS, he served as chair of the border governors'
11 association and the education commission of the states; and

12 WHEREAS, after serving New Mexico as governor, he
13 ventured into the private sector in the health care insurance
14 industry; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2003, he returned to the "Yale of the
16 yuccas" as dean of the New Mexico state university college of
17 business; and

18 WHEREAS, he was at the helm of the college of business
19 when New Mexico state university was reaccredited by the
20 American association of colleges and schools of business; and

21 WHEREAS, he became president of New Mexico state
22 university in 2013, becoming the university's twenty-seventh
23 president; and

24 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in starting the
25 Pete V. Domenici public policy institute, of which he

1 currently serves as director; and

2 WHEREAS, he was associated with the following
3 initiatives and honors during his tenure as chancellor of
4 New Mexico state university: Aggie development,
5 incorporated; all about discovery; Arrowhead center;
6 Burrell college of osteopathic medicine; selection to receive
7 the community engagement classification from the Carnegie
8 foundation for the advancement of teaching; ignite Aggie
9 discovery campaign; and transforming New Mexico state
10 university into the twenty-first century university
11 initiative; and

12 WHEREAS, he plans to travel around New Mexico in his
13 1967 Mustang with Kathy, seeking new adventures and traveling
14 roads he has not yet traversed; and

15 WHEREAS, he plans to play every golf course in
16 New Mexico before he hangs up his cleats; and

17 WHEREAS, he loves the state of New Mexico and New Mexico
18 state university; and

19 WHEREAS, he will be remembered for many of his favorite
20 sayings that include: "Yesterday is something I never
21 thought of trying..." (Kris Kristofferson); "travelin' light"
22 and "You have to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold
23 'em" (Kenny Rogers, "The Gambler"); from the cowboy code of
24 ethics (James P. Owen), "Live each day with courage"; and
25 "I must hurry and catch them, for I am their leader.";

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that recognition and congratulations be extended to Chancellor Garrey E. Carruthers, Ph.D., on his retirement from New Mexico state university and for his tireless devotion to the betterment of New Mexico and its residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to Garrey E. Carruthers, Ph.D., chancellor of New Mexico state university.