

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 46

2 48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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9  
10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 HONORING UNITED STATES SENATOR PETE DOMENICI OF NEW MEXICO.

12  
13 WHEREAS, Senator Pete Domenici was born on May 7, 1932 in  
14 Albuquerque, the only son of five children born to Italian  
15 immigrants; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici graduated from St. Mary's High  
17 School in 1950 and received his law degree from the University  
18 of Denver in 1958; and

19 WHEREAS, he married Nancy Burk in 1958, with whom he has  
20 eight children and many loving grandchildren; and

21 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici was elected to the United States  
22 Senate in 1972, becoming the first Republican elected to the  
23 Senate from New Mexico in thirty-eight years; and

24 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici is the longest-serving United  
25 States senator in New Mexico history and upon his retirement

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1 from the Senate in 2008, he will become the first senator in  
2 New Mexico history to serve six full terms; and

3 WHEREAS, he is a ranking member and former chair of the  
4 Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and a member  
5 of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Budget  
6 Committee, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the  
7 Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici sponsored the Energy Policy Act  
10 of 2005, a landmark bill that diversifies America's energy  
11 supply, and bipartisan legislation such as the Balanced Budget  
12 Act of 1997, and he is credited with developing many of the  
13 rules currently used by the Senate; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici was known for his ability to  
15 negotiate on both sides of the aisle and to fight for issues  
16 important to New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, he sponsored a resolution designating one week a  
18 year as "National Character Counts Week" as a way for schools  
19 and after-school programs to develop strong character in  
20 students; and

21 WHEREAS, he is an advocate for individuals with mental  
22 health conditions, sponsoring the Mental Health Parity Act of  
23 1996, and spending two years negotiating with lawmakers and  
24 insurance companies to ensure fair insurance coverage under the  
25 Mental Health Parity Act of 2007; and

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1 WHEREAS, he has proven to be a pillar of strength for the  
2 economy of the state of New Mexico by fighting for Sandia and  
3 Los Alamos national laboratories and for military installations  
4 and by bringing new businesses and jobs to the state; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Domenici will be remembered as a fighter  
6 for New Mexico, an advocate for negotiation and a constant  
7 source of stability in the world of politics; and

8 WHEREAS, the retirement of Senator Pete Domenici marks the  
9 loss of a great senator who fought tirelessly for both New  
10 Mexico and the nation; and

11 WHEREAS, his representation in the Senate will be sorely  
12 missed by all New Mexicans;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Senator Pete Domenici be honored for  
15 his many years of great service to the people of New Mexico;  
16 and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Senator Domenici be forever  
18 welcome at the New Mexico Legislature.