

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PATTY JENNINGS AND EXPRESSING SINCERE
3 CONDOLENCES TO HER HUSBAND, SENATOR TIMOTHY Z. JENNINGS, AND
4 THEIR CHILDREN, COURTNEY, ELLIOTT, KATHERINE, ZEPH AND
5 ZACHARY.

6
7 WHEREAS, Patricia K. Jennings, known to all as "Patty",
8 was an amazing woman of compassion, wisdom and strength whose
9 life and accomplishments are well worth celebrating; and

10 WHEREAS, Patty had a distinguished career as an advocate
11 for early intervention, special education and health care
12 services for children and adults with special needs; and

13 WHEREAS, she crafted the legislation that created the
14 New Mexico medical insurance pool in response to her personal
15 experience of being unable to purchase health insurance for
16 her daughter, Courtney; and

17 WHEREAS, together with her husband, Senator Timothy Z.
18 Jennings, she successfully lobbied for a bill to establish a
19 partnership between the university of New Mexico cancer
20 center and the university of Texas M.D. Anderson cancer
21 center to conduct inflammatory breast cancer research; and

22 WHEREAS, her health care and disability advocacy and her
23 efforts to enhance access to services for individuals who are
24 underserved or who have special needs will be her legacy
25 through the *Patricia K. Jennings Foundation*, which was

1 established in January 2009; and

2 WHEREAS, although she was tireless in her advocacy for
3 these and other important efforts, she was first and foremost
4 a wife to Senator Jennings and mother to their five children;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, her children and husband were her primary
7 passions and focus, and they and her parents, siblings and
8 friends were the recipients of her unconditional love; and

9 WHEREAS, her life is characterized by her many friends
10 and her family as one of selflessness and generosity, and her
11 daughter, Katherine, expressed it well by saying, "We never
12 felt second to anything or anyone. She was enamored with her
13 children, but she never knew how much her kids were enamored
14 with her"; and

15 WHEREAS, she was blessed with clarity of purpose and the
16 ability to express herself with conviction, and, in the words
17 of John Foley, "She was one who found it natural to see
18 justice done on this earth"; and

19 WHEREAS, she brought compassion and devotion to
20 everything she did, showing herself to be a determined,
21 loving woman whose life was well-lived; and

22 WHEREAS, Patty Jennings, after a courageous four-year
23 battle with breast cancer, died on Valentine's day, February
24 14, 2009, surrounded by her loving family at her home in
25 Roswell; and

1 WHEREAS, her life and death remind us all to reach out
2 to those less fortunate, to live each day to the fullest, to
3 face each day with optimism and a smile and to leave the
4 world a better place;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
6 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the life of Patty Jennings be
7 celebrated on this day and that condolences be expressed to
8 Senator Timothy Z. Jennings and their children; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appreciation and condolences
10 be expressed to the family and friends of Patty Jennings, a
11 woman who will always have a special place in our hearts; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the memorial be
13 transmitted to Senator Timothy Z. Jennings and his family.