

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING THE LIFE OF PATTY JENNINGS AND THE COMMITMENT OF  
3 SENATOR TIM AND PATTY JENNINGS TO THE CAUSE OF BREAST CANCER  
4 RESEARCH BY DEDICATING THE BREAST CANCER RESEARCH AND  
5 OUTREACH PROGRAM IN THEIR NAMES.

6  
7 WHEREAS, the board of regents of the university of New  
8 Mexico has approved the statewide breast cancer research and  
9 outreach program at the university of New Mexico cancer  
10 center to be named "The Senator Tim and Patty Jennings Breast  
11 Cancer Research and Statewide Outreach Program"; and

12 WHEREAS, Patricia K. "Patty" Jennings, wife of Senator  
13 Timothy Z. Jennings, passed away on February 14, 2009 after a  
14 four-year struggle with breast cancer; and

15 WHEREAS, after her diagnosis, and upon becoming  
16 acquainted with several young women undergoing treatment for  
17 breast cancer, Patty and Tim became ardent advocates for  
18 those patients across the state and the nation who are  
19 suffering from this disease; and

20 WHEREAS, they were particularly interested in patients  
21 afflicted with inflammatory breast cancer, a rare and  
22 aggressive form of cancer affecting primarily young women,  
23 from which very few survive and for which there is no  
24 effective therapy; and

25 WHEREAS, originally diagnosed with this type of breast

1 cancer, Patty later learned that she was the victim of a  
2 different, high-risk form of breast cancer; however, she  
3 vowed to continue to help the hundreds of young women whose  
4 lives are taken by inflammatory breast cancer every year; and

5 WHEREAS, together, Patty and Senator Tim Jennings  
6 successfully lobbied for a bill to establish a partnership  
7 between the university of New Mexico cancer center and the  
8 university of Texas M.D. Anderson cancer center to conduct  
9 inflammatory breast cancer research; and

10 WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature unanimously passed  
11 Senate Bill 532 in 2007 that appropriated three million two  
12 hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) for this purpose; and

13 WHEREAS, the Texas legislature quickly followed suit and  
14 contributed four million dollars (\$4,000,000) to this new  
15 partnership; and

16 WHEREAS, through the Susan G. Komen breast cancer  
17 foundation, American airlines has committed an additional  
18 eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) to the fund and has  
19 dedicated ten of their fleet to display the pink breast  
20 cancer ribbon to promote the cause of breast cancer research;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, this two-state, two national cancer institute  
23 certified cancer center collaboration is the first of its  
24 kind in the nation; and

25 WHEREAS, the program is currently conducting critical

1 research on inflammatory breast cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, the program is also focused on developing and  
3 providing community-based breast cancer education, awareness  
4 and screening; and

5 WHEREAS, the program is also developing a registry of  
6 all newly diagnosed breast cancer patients in the state; and

7 WHEREAS, Patty Jennings, through her life and her death,  
8 has had an immeasurable impact on breast cancer care and  
9 research in New Mexico, securing hope for the future for  
10 women facing this terrible disease; and

11 WHEREAS, Patty Jennings and Senator Tim Jennings have  
12 left a tremendous legacy for breast cancer research well into  
13 the future;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the life of Patty Jennings and the  
16 commitment of Senator Tim and Patty Jennings to the cause of  
17 breast cancer research be honored by the dedication of the  
18 statewide breast cancer research and outreach program at the  
19 university of New Mexico cancer center as "The Senator Tim  
20 and Patty Jennings Breast Cancer Research and Statewide  
21 Outreach Program"; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to Senator Timothy Z. Jennings. \_\_\_\_\_