HOUSE MEMORIAL 65

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph Cervantes

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO REPRESENTATIVE AL PARK FOR HIS

DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Representative Al Park was first elected to the

New Mexico house of representatives in 2000 from his diverse

uptown Albuquerque district 26 at the tender age of thirty,

making him the youngest member of the state legislature; and

WHEREAS, early on, in 2003, the "baby-faced" legislator,

as he was dubbed by local media, was recognized by the national

democratic leadership council as the only New Mexican on its

list of "100 New Democrats to Watch: The Next Generation of

Leadership"; and

WHEREAS, Representative Park's mantra, "equal opportunity

for all, special privileges for none, so all New Mexicans can

succeed", has characterized his decade-long career in the

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1 legislature; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Park has been a vocal supporter of

3 ethics reform and limitations on campaign contributions and has

4 maintained that "government is not about $10,000 in cash in a

5 brown paper bag"; and

6 WHEREAS, as a proponent of consumer protection,

7 Representative Park has sponsored "lemon laws" that protect

8 car-buying consumers and sellers; and

9 WHEREAS, his commitment to health care reform is evidenced

10 by his sponsorship of an organ donation act in 2002 that

11 continues to serve as a national model; and

12 WHEREAS, his 2007 sponsorship of the Dee Johnson Clean

13 Indoor Air Act continues to protect New Mexicans from the

14 danger of secondhand smoke in public places; and

15 WHEREAS, he has long advocated increasing the number of

16 instructional days in the school year and limiting the size of

17 classes; and

18 WHEREAS, in terms of legislative leadership,

19 Representative Park has served as house parliamentarian, chair

20 of the house judiciary committee and vice chair of the house

21 consumer and public affairs committee; and

22 WHEREAS, he has also served as co-chair of the interim

23 courts, corrections and justice committee and has been a member

24 of such other interim committees as the Children's Code

25 revision committee, the government restructuring task force,

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the legislative finance committee, the economic and rural development and telecommunications committee and the regulatory process subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, Representative Park was born in the Panama Canal Zone to a mother of Venezuelan descent and an Anglo corporate attorney father; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Purdue university and the George Washington University school of law in the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, his career as an attorney reflects his legislative commitment to ethics, education and health care reform; and

WHEREAS, he is married to Bernalillo native Jessica Peréz, an attorney who was the 2011 president of the state bar of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, they have a preschool daughter, Ella, and a brand new baby girl, Emery; and

WHEREAS, Representative Park, with the benefit of his public service and the support of his family and friends, soon begins a campaign for a seat on the public regulation commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the gratitude of the New Mexico legislature, the people of district 26 and the people of New Mexico be expressed to Representative Al Park

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for his dedicated service to the people of the state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that he be wished the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

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