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HOUSE MEMORIAL 79

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Patricio Ruiloba

A MEMORIAL

HONORING ERNEST HENRY CHAVEZ AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, Ernest Henry Chavez, a democrat who served as a state representative for district 12 in Bernalillo county from 2004 to 2014, died on June 29, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was born on February 6, 1937 in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez graduated from Albuquerque high school in 1957 and attended the Albuquerque business college in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez and his wife, Rosanna Chavez, were married for fifty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, Ernest and Rosanna Chavez had six children: Arlene, Elaine, Ronald, Ernest, Jr., Randy and Ralph; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 1996, Mr. Chavez retired as a surveyor from
2 the city of Albuquerque's engineering division; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez served twenty-eight years with the New
4 Mexico national guard and United States army reserve; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was a Democratic party ward and
6 precinct chair for thirty years; and

7 WHEREAS, on September 28, 2004, Mr. Chavez was appointed
8 to the term ending in 2004 to replace James O. Taylor, who
9 resigned from his house seat when he was appointed to the
10 senate; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was elected for five terms in 2004,
12 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez represented the rural district that
14 covers the far south valley of Albuquerque, Pajarito mesa and a
15 remote area west of the Rio Puerco; and

16 WHEREAS, during his legislative career, Mr. Chavez served
17 on the taxation and revenue committee from 2005 to 2014; the
18 transportation and public works committee from 2007 to 2010 and
19 served as vice chair from 2011 to 2014; the transportation
20 committee from 2005 to 2006; and the enrolling and engrossing
21 committee from 2005 to 2006; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez also served on several interim
23 committees, including the economic and rural development
24 committee from 2007 to 2014; the Mortgage Finance Authority Act
25 oversight committee as a member from 2005 to 2012, serving as

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1 chair in 2013 and vice chair in 2014; and the New Mexico
2 finance authority oversight committee from 2013 to 2014; and

3 WHEREAS, during the interim, Mr. Chavez served as an
4 advisory member on several committees; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2005, Mr. Chavez was instrumental in getting
6 one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) appropriated to
7 purchase a site for a planned recreational area in the south
8 valley; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was unable to attend the thirty-day
10 2014 legislative session due to health issues caused by the
11 bite of a brown recluse spider; and

12 WHEREAS, citing his age and health problems, Mr. Chavez
13 did not seek reelection in 2014; and

14 WHEREAS, during his legislative tenure, Mr. Chavez was a
15 strong advocate for preserving the south valley of
16 Albuquerque's rural and agricultural way of life; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez was a lifetime member of the Catholic
18 church, and was very active in his community; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Chavez cited his major personal
20 accomplishment as a lifetime of hard work as a good father and
21 husband;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Ernest Henry
24 Chavez be remembered for his years of public service and for
25 his dedication to the residents of New Mexico; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the family of Ernest Henry Chavez.

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