

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING JAMES "JIM" P. WHITE AND RECOGNIZING HIS OUTSTANDING
3 SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

4
5 WHEREAS, James "Jim" P. White, who served as a
6 Republican senator for district 19 from 2016 to 2020, passed
7 away in Albuquerque on January 15, 2021; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator White grew up on the south side of
9 Chicago; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator White caddied at the Oak Park country
11 club in suburban Chicago throughout high school, earning an
12 Evans scholars foundation golf caddie scholarship; and

13 WHEREAS, in college, Senator White met his wife,
14 Jacquie, on a blind date; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator White and Jacquie were married in 1965
16 and immediately set off for Senator White's flight training
17 school in Texas to begin a long adventure together in the
18 United States air force; and

19 WHEREAS, initially flying Boeing KC-135 stratotankers
20 and Lockheed C-130 Hercules planes, Senator White later
21 shifted to piloting helicopters, namely the Sikorsky HH-3E,
22 nicknamed the "jolly green giant"; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator White served more than thirteen tours
24 of duty, flew search and rescue in Vietnam and lastly served
25 as chief of staff for air force special operations command in

1 Florida; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator White retired honorably in 1992 as a
3 colonel after twenty-six years of service, having earned
4 numerous awards that include the air force legion of merit
5 and the distinguished flying cross; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator White then began a brief career as
7 airfield operations manager for the Albuquerque international
8 sunport; and

9 WHEREAS, after seven years, Senator White retired again
10 to support his wife's career and to have the time to enjoy
11 his family; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2009, Senator White's sense of duty
13 compelled him to answer the call to join the New Mexico
14 legislature; and

15 WHEREAS, in addition to representing district 19 in
16 the senate from 2016 to 2020, Senator White represented
17 district 20 in the house of representatives from 2009 to
18 2014; and

19 WHEREAS, Senator White's quiet, introspective and calm
20 demeanor earned him the respect of members of both parties;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Senator White was devoted to his family and
23 regularly kept in touch with his children, grandchildren,
24 siblings and extended family members; and

25 WHEREAS, Senator White was always ready to celebrate the

1 news of a wedding, graduation, promotion or new family
2 member; and

3 WHEREAS, an avid lifelong golfer, Senator White's
4 appreciation for the game mirrored his approach to life:
5 respect the game, play by the rules, celebrate the birdies
6 and do not dwell on the bogies; and

7 WHEREAS, he often teed off before sunrise, walked the
8 course with the bag over his shoulder and finished the
9 eighteenth hole in time for breakfast; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator White never shied from adventure, and
11 his stories are treasured family folklore: getting slightly
12 tangled in the great train robbery due to an abandoned car in
13 France, an illegal u-turn in South Korea's royal palace, a
14 passport debacle in Malaysia, dancing with the Maasai Mara in
15 Kenya, hiking the Grand canyon with a torn ligament and
16 cycling down Mauna Kea at the break of dawn; and

17 WHEREAS, a true storyteller, Senator White told each one
18 with a healthy dose of humor, while touching a great many
19 lives with his love, kindness and compassion; and

20 WHEREAS, Senator White quietly supported his family,
21 friends, community and country with his wisdom, advice and
22 simply leading by example; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator White earned the love and respect of
24 many and was laid to rest with full military honors at
25 Arlington national cemetery; and

1 WHEREAS, Senator White was preceded in death by his
2 beloved wife of forty-nine years, Jacqueline, and his
3 brother, Stanley "Bud" White; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator White is survived by his children,
5 Jennifer White, Julie Goldblatt and John, and
6 Christopher White and Angela Wehr; his sisters,
7 Joyce Bousquet and Karen Brienzo; his brother-in-law,
8 William Stadnik and Jan; his grandchildren, Mitchell, Jessi,
9 Dallan and Justine; and an aunt, cousins, nieces and nephews
10 he held dear;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that James "Jim" P. White be honored
13 for his many years of public service and dedication to the
14 residents of New Mexico and his commitment to the many people
15 whose lives he touched; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
17 transmitted to the family of Senator James "Jim" P. White. _____