A MEMORIAL

HONORING LOREN AND BARBARA NELSON AND RECOGNIZING THEIR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO NEW MEXICO AND ITS RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN.

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WHEREAS, Loren and Barbara Nelson moved to Silver City from Minnesota in 2010 and immediately began to work in numerous ways to the benefit of New Mexicans, especially children; and

WHEREAS, Loren and Barbara Nelson were the first patrons to bring the Dolly Parton imagination library to New Mexico, establishing a local affiliate in Grant county in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Dolly Parton imagination library has sent out more than one hundred ninety-seven million books to children from birth until the age of five, and the imagination library of Grant county has delivered more than one hundred fifty-six thousand nine hundred books; and

WHEREAS, the availability of books in the home enables a child's family to read and interact with the child and has been shown to markedly increase a child's likelihood of reading well and succeeding in school; and

WHEREAS, parent satisfaction surveys in Grant county and elsewhere have shown very positive results, with families receiving books spending more quality time reading with their children, and the children love receiving a book addressed to SM 15

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them in the mail each month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Loren and Barbara Nelson be honored and recognized for their public service and dedication to New Mexico and its residents, especially its children; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to Loren and Barbara Nelson and their family and to the Dolly Parton imagination library of Grant county._____ SM 15 Page 2