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SENATE MEMORIAL 6

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Candy Spence Ezzell and James G. Townsend and Rex Wilson
and Pat Boone and Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSIDER NAMING
THE ROSWELL BYPASS IN HONOR OF NANCY LOPEZ.

WHEREAS, Nancy Lopez is an internationally renowned
professional golfer and one of the city of Roswell's most
distinguished natives; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Lopez was born in Torrance, California, in
1957 and grew up in the city of Roswell, where she learned to
golf on local courses and graduated from Goddard high school;
and

WHEREAS, in 1969, at the age of twelve, Nancy Lopez won
the first of three consecutive New Mexico women's amateur
titles and went on to win three consecutive United States
girls' junior/western women's titles in 1972, 1973 and 1974;
and

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1 WHEREAS, in 1974 and 1975, Nancy Lopez competed as an
2 amateur in the United States women's open; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1976, as a freshman at the university of
4 Tulsa, Nancy Lopez won the association for intercollegiate
5 athletics for women national intercollegiate golf championship
6 and was a member of the United States Curtis cup and world
7 amateur teams; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1977, Nancy Lopez joined the ladies
9 professional golf association; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1978, during her first full season on the
11 ladies professional golf association tour, Nancy Lopez won nine
12 tournaments, including five consecutive tournaments, was named
13 rookie of the year, player of the year and the associated press
14 female athlete of the year and appeared on the cover of the
15 July 1978 issue of *Sports Illustrated*; and

16 WHEREAS, Nancy Lopez went on to dominate the sport and
17 become one of the most iconic figures in women's professional
18 golf, winning forty-eight ladies professional golf association
19 tournaments and being named player of the year three more times
20 in 1979, 1985 and 1988; and

21 WHEREAS, Nancy Lopez was inducted into the world golf hall
22 of fame in 1987, the ladies professional golf association hall
23 of fame in 1989 and the New Mexico sports hall of fame in 2000;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, throughout her career, Nancy Lopez proudly

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1 represented the city of Roswell on a global stage, crediting
2 her hometown roots for her success; and

3 WHEREAS, naming the United States highway 285 bypass, also
4 known as the Roswell bypass, in her honor will recognize Nancy
5 Lopez for her exceptional career, her contributions to women's
6 sports and her enduring connection to the city of Roswell and
7 will inspire future generations to achieve excellence;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
9 OF NEW MEXICO that the department of transportation be
10 requested to consider naming the United States highway 285
11 bypass in honor of Nancy Lopez; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the secretary of transportation.