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1 agriculture and chairman of the house appropriations  
2 subcommittee on the interior and was informally designated by  
3 his colleagues a "cardinal"; and

4 WHEREAS, he vigorously supported New Mexico's military  
5 installations and numerous issues concerning the department of  
6 the interior; and

7 WHEREAS, he always supported the protection of property  
8 rights, encouraging businesses to expand by reducing intrusive  
9 government, balancing the federal budget, providing tax relief,  
10 improving education and fighting crime; and

11 WHEREAS, he served in the United States navy and the  
12 United States air force reserve after graduating from Texas  
13 A & M university in 1950; and

14 WHEREAS, he was the first soil and water conservation  
15 engineer for the Pueblo of Zuni and the Ramah chapter of the  
16 Navajo Nation; and

17 WHEREAS, he served on the boards of the New Mexico wool  
18 growers association and the New Mexico cattle growers  
19 association, was president of the Lincoln county farm bureau  
20 and was a member of the American legion; and

21 WHEREAS, he was a member of the state senate from 1960 to  
22 1970 and served as chairman of the state's Republican party;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife Mary Helen, his son  
25 Mike, his daughter Lisa, three grandchildren and many friends

. 149687. 1

1 and colleagues;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
3 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that condolences be expressed on the loss  
4 of Joe Skeen, a loving and devoted New Mexican; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
6 transmitted to Mary Helen Skeen.

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