

1 A MEMORIAL

2 EXPRESSING APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO LONNIE SUMPTER FOR
3 HIS CONTRIBUTION TO NEW MEXICO'S FUTURE IN SPACE
4 COMMERCIALIZATION AND DECLARING FEBRUARY 16, 2007
5 "LONNIE SUMPTER DAY" AT THE SENATE.

6
7 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter graduated from Oklahoma state
8 university with a degree in mechanical engineering and was
9 employed by the army depot in Pueblo, Colorado, as an
10 engineering intern; and

11 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was employed at White Sands
12 missile range, where he was eventually promoted to senior
13 project engineer; and

14 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was recruited by the Coleman
15 Research corporation to develop its test and evaluation
16 business in southern New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was a founder of General
18 Kinematics corporation; and

19 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter played a key role in organizing
20 the southwest regional space task force, which charted the
21 early path for New Mexico in the realm of commercial space;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was appointed executive director
24 of the New Mexico office of space commercialization but had
25 to leave his position due to illness; and

1 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter continued to make an invaluable
2 contribution to New Mexico's commercial space program with
3 his innovative systems engineering approach to flight safety
4 analyses in support of reusable launch operations, as well as
5 his presentations on the unlimited possibilities for
6 New Mexico in commercial space; and

7 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was appointed to New Mexico's
8 military base planning commission and personally developed a
9 description of New Mexico's military advantages, which was
10 included in the state's presentation to the United States
11 department of defense base realignment and closure commission
12 in support of saving Cannon air force base during the base
13 realignment and closure round in 2005; and

14 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter was appointed director of New
15 Mexico's spaceport authority, where he worked closely with
16 the rocket racing league, UP Aerospace and Virgin Galactic
17 corporation and provided outstanding executive leadership to
18 New Mexico's commercial spaceport program; and

19 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter, as director of the spaceport
20 authority, worked diligently on planning, environmental
21 review and licensing for New Mexico's commercial spaceport
22 program; and

23 WHEREAS, Lonnie Sumpter, as director of the spaceport
24 authority, presented an inspiring vision of the economic
25 benefits of New Mexico's spaceport through his numerous

1 presentations to civic, cultural, professional and
2 educational groups;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
4 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that sincere appreciation and gratitude
5 be expressed to Lonnie Sumpter for his significant
6 contribution to New Mexico's future in space
7 commercialization and for his love for the New Mexico
8 spaceport program and that February 16, 2007 be declared
9 "Lonnie Sumpter Day" at the senate; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
11 transmitted to Lonnie Sumpter. _____

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