

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 65

2 **49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PATTY JENNINGS AND EXPRESSING SINCERE
12 CONDOLENCES TO HER HUSBAND, SENATOR TIMOTHY Z. JENNINGS, AND
13 THEIR CHILDREN, COURTNEY, ELLIOTT, KATHERINE, ZEPH AND ZACHARY.

14
15 WHEREAS, Patricia K. Jennings, known to all as "Patty",
16 was an amazing woman of compassion, wisdom and strength whose
17 life and accomplishments are well worth celebrating; and

18 WHEREAS, Patty had a distinguished career as an advocate
19 for early intervention, special education and health care
20 services for children and adults with special needs; and

21 WHEREAS, she crafted the legislation that created the New
22 Mexico medical insurance pool in response to her personal
23 experience of being unable to purchase health insurance for her
24 daughter, Courtney; and

25 WHEREAS, together with her husband, Senator Timothy Z.

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1 Jennings, she successfully lobbied for a bill to establish a
2 partnership between the university of New Mexico cancer center
3 and the university of Texas M.D. Anderson cancer center to
4 conduct inflammatory breast cancer research; and

5 WHEREAS, her health care and disability advocacy and her
6 efforts to enhance access to services for individuals who are
7 underserved or who have special needs will be her legacy
8 through the *Patricia K. Jennings Foundation*, which was
9 established in January 2009; and

10 WHEREAS, although she was tireless in her advocacy for
11 these and other important efforts, she was first and foremost a
12 wife to Senator Jennings and mother to their five children; and

13 WHEREAS, her children and husband were her primary
14 passions and focus, and they and her parents, siblings and
15 friends were the recipients of her unconditional love; and

16 WHEREAS, her life is characterized by her many friends and
17 her family as one of selflessness and generosity, and her
18 daughter, Katherine, expressed it well by saying, "We never
19 felt second to anything or anyone. She was enamored with her
20 children, but she never knew how much her kids were enamored
21 with her"; and

22 WHEREAS, she was blessed with clarity of purpose and the
23 ability to express herself with conviction, and, in the words
24 of John Foley, "She was one who found it natural to see justice
25 done on this earth"; and

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