

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF FORMER GOVERNOR DAVID CARGO
3 AND APPROVING THE PLACEMENT OF A BRONZE PORTRAIT BUST OF HIM
4 IN THE STATE CAPITOL.

5
6 WHEREAS, David Cargo served as New Mexico's governor for
7 two terms, from 1967 through 1970, was sworn in as the
8 youngest governor in the state's history and served at a
9 difficult time that included the June 1967 raid on the Tierra
10 Amarilla courthouse; and

11 WHEREAS, during his governorship, Cargo created the
12 country's first film office and the state's human rights
13 commission and was instrumental in the state's passage of the
14 White Cane Law, landmark legislation for the blind; and

15 WHEREAS, Governor Cargo had a healthy agenda of concerns
16 that included establishing a code of legislative ethics,
17 lobbyist regulations, congressional districting, statewide
18 kindergartens and a state clean air act, all of which have
19 since been instituted; and

20 WHEREAS, as well as overseeing the creation of the film
21 office, Cargo appeared in several films, playing a newspaper
22 reporter in *The Good Guys and the Bad Guys* (1969); a state
23 trooper in *Bunny O'Hare* (1971), a comedy starring Bette
24 Davis; and Corporal Benton in the western *The Gatling Gun*
25 (1973); and

1 WHEREAS, Cargo described himself as a "fiscal
2 conservative" who left office with a surplus of between
3 twenty-three million dollars and twenty-five million dollars
4 in the state's general fund; and

5 WHEREAS, after serving the state as governor, Cargo
6 continued to have wide-ranging influence; and, as a
7 reflection of his deep love of books and reading, he helped
8 many rural communities build libraries; and

9 WHEREAS, Cargo, the appreciative owner of more than
10 sixty clocks, not counting his pocket and wrist watches,
11 said that he had "a thing about utilizing time productively";
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the spirit of independence that he displayed
14 while serving as governor of New Mexico earned him the
15 nickname "Lonesome Dave", and he stated that "it's cheaper
16 going alone. You don't have to buy hamburgers for everyone";
17 and

18 WHEREAS, after serving as governor, Cargo continued to
19 pursue various political positions, becoming chairman of the
20 board at what was then the Albuquerque Technical-Vocational
21 Institute and a member of the city's labor management
22 relations board, and he continued his work as an attorney
23 specializing in environmental and foreign trade issues; and

24 WHEREAS, more than forty years ago, Cargo said that
25 "persons in public office should occupy a position of trust

1 and not of special privilege"; and

2 WHEREAS, highly accomplished portrait sculptor Storm
3 Townsend has created a bronze bust of Governor David Cargo;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, New Mexico legislative council policies require
6 that the placement of such a bust be approved by a
7 two-thirds' vote in each house upon the recommendation of the
8 capitol recognition subcommittee; and

9 WHEREAS, the subcommittee met on January 17, 2011 and
10 approved the placement of the bust in the office of the
11 governor, while reserving the right to group the bust with
12 similar tributes to other governors at a later date;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the bronze portrait bust of Governor
15 David Cargo be displayed in the state capitol. _____

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