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HOUSE MEMORIAL 99

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Brian Egolf and Don L. Tripp

A MEMORIAL

HONORING HOUSE SPEAKER W. KEN MARTINEZ AND RECOGNIZING HIS
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, after nine terms of dedication to statewide
public service, former house speaker W. Ken Martinez will be
leaving the legislature and focusing his legal and political
expertise on serving Bernalillo county as its attorney; and

WHEREAS, a Democrat, Speaker Martinez will have
represented house district 69, which covers Bernalillo, Cibola,
McKinley, San Juan, Socorro and Valencia counties, from 1999 to
2016; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez was born and raised in Grants,
New Mexico, a rural community where he was first elected to
represent; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez graduated from the university of

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1 New Mexico in 1981 and was awarded a juris doctor degree from
2 the university of Notre Dame law school in 1984; and

3 WHEREAS, while pursuing his juris doctor degree, Speaker
4 Martinez also completed an international law program in Mexico
5 City and a program of international human rights law at the
6 London school of economics; and

7 WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2004, Speaker Martinez was the house
8 parliamentarian; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2005, Speaker Martinez was elected by his
10 fellow Democratic members to serve as New Mexico house majority
11 floor leader; and

12 WHEREAS, from 2013 to 2014, Speaker Martinez served as
13 speaker of the house, a position his father, Walter K.
14 Martinez, proudly held from 1971 to 1978; and

15 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez's roots in his district and the
16 state run deep; and

17 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez's connection to the challenges
18 that New Mexicans face inspires his legislative priorities of
19 fighting for economic opportunity and job creation, providing a
20 social safety net for our most vulnerable citizens and ensuring
21 that every child in New Mexico receives a quality education;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, among his key legislative victories, Speaker
24 Martinez counts his fight to reduce the tragic results of
25 driving-while-intoxicated deaths and injuries in New Mexico as

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1 a major achievement in improving and protecting the lives of
2 New Mexicans; and

3 WHEREAS, understanding that quality education and economic
4 opportunity go hand in hand, Speaker Martinez successfully
5 spearheaded legislation to create a partnership between the
6 state and school districts to build and renovate schools
7 throughout the state; and

8 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is currently serving on the
9 national board of the state legislative leaders foundation and
10 was the 2010 recipient of the American humane association's
11 Rutherford T. Phillips award for excellence on behalf of animal
12 welfare; and

13 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is often described by his
14 legislative colleagues as gracious, a problem solver and a man
15 who demonstrates a commitment to inclusiveness; and

16 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is married to Monique Martinez
17 and is the proud father of four children and one granddaughter;

18 WHEREAS, Speaker Martinez is a motorcycle enthusiast and
19 loves spending time baking with his granddaughter, Soleza, and
20 he is utterly dedicated to his family and friends;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Speaker W. Ken
23 Martinez be honored for his dedication to the people of New
24 Mexico and for his unstinting public service; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be

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1 transmitted to Speaker W. Ken Martinez.

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