

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CIPRIANO
3 FREDERICO VIGIL, PH.D.

4
5 WHEREAS, Cipriano Frederico Vigil, Ph.D., is the most
6 important performer of traditional Nuevomexicano folk music
7 in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries; and

8 WHEREAS, his life's work spans half a century of
9 playing, composing and singing ritual, social and dance
10 music; and

11 WHEREAS, Cipriano was born and raised in the small
12 village of Chamisal, New Mexico; and

13 WHEREAS, he received a baccalaureate degree in music
14 education and a master's degree in bilingual education from
15 New Mexico highlands university; and

16 WHEREAS, in Mexico, Cipriano was awarded a scholarship
17 by the Mexican government to the national institute of fine
18 arts where, in 1988, he obtained a second master's degree in
19 ethnomusicology; and

20 WHEREAS, Cipriano began his career as a professor at
21 northern New Mexico college in 1980, was named the
22 chairperson of the fine arts department and completed his
23 doctorate in ethnomusicology in 1988 and retired from the
24 college in 2004; and

25 WHEREAS, because of his love for music and teaching,

1 Cipriano continues to work at northern New Mexico college as
2 a part-time instructor in folk music; and

3 WHEREAS, renowned as a composer, Cipriano works in
4 traditional genres such as romance, *décima*, cuando and
5 corrido; and

6 WHEREAS, he has performed traditional New Mexican folk
7 music as well as *la nueva canción*, new songs in a style that
8 originated in South America; and

9 WHEREAS, his early background and training in music
10 instilled in Cipriano a passion for preserving and
11 disseminating the folk music of northern New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, Cipriano has presented thousands of
13 performances and workshops, including to elementary
14 classrooms in New Mexico, cowboy poetry gatherings in Elko,
15 Nevada, and the Smithsonian institution in Washington, D.C.;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Cipriano has produced a four-volume set of
18 traditional New Mexican folk music, a self-published
19 collection of his own compositions, a manuscript of sixty-
20 seven of his compositions for violin and guitar and
21 compositions for theatrical performances and films; and

22 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico press is currently
23 publishing a book Cipriano wrote about the folklore of New
24 Mexico, to be accompanied by twenty-one compact discs; and

25 WHEREAS, in his many presentations to local schools,

1 Cipriano brings part of his collection of more than three
2 hundred musical instruments from around the world; and

3 WHEREAS, Cipriano has been recognized by the New Mexico
4 endowment for the humanities and the Smithsonian institution;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Cipriano has been honored as a living treasure,
7 received the New Mexico governor's award in 1994 and, in
8 2017, was recognized by Governor Susana Martinez for his
9 significant musical contributions and advancements made to
10 the cultural education, identity and pride in the lives of
11 New Mexico's children and many communities; and

12 WHEREAS, Cipriano's son, Cipriano Pablo Vigil, and his
13 daughter, Felicita Vigil Pinon, have performed with him in
14 concerts for over twenty-five years, and recently, his
15 granddaughter, Marisol Vigil, and his grandsons, Matzael
16 Pinon and Alonzo Vigil, have been performing with Cipriano as
17 well;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Cipriano
20 Frederico Vigil, Ph.D., be recognized and honored for his
21 significant contributions to creating and preserving New
22 Mexico folk music; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to Cipriano Frederico Vigil, Ph.D. _____