

1 WHEREAS, in Washington, D.C., she joined the Congressional Club and the
2 International Club, whose members included wives of senators, congressmen,
3 ambassadors, and journalists. The women forged influential international
4 friendships. When Jim was elected to the Senate, Louise became actively
5 engaged with the Senate Wives' Club, which organized to serve the Inter-
6 national Red Cross and impact other important issues. While furthering
7 the mission of the International Red Cross, the Senate Wives, later called
8 Senate Spouses, hosted a First Lady Luncheon every year. These events fa-
9 cilitated professional networking, enhanced idea exchange, and fostered
10 lifelong friendships, like the relationship between "Mrs. James A. McClure"
11 and "Mrs. George H.W. Bush" and their families. Congressional families
12 are integral to robust policymaking. Entertaining dignitaries, visiting
13 communities, representing constituents, and advocating are all part and
14 parcel of the job of a congressional spouse. Louise was precisely the kind of
15 leader who led the charge into the activities that built relationships and
16 fostered collaborations. Her service was an absolute necessity on innumer-
17 able occasions, ranging from international events to hosting dignitaries.
18 The relationships cultivated in the International Club were so important in
19 these settings. Louise's leadership, organization, and strategic thinking
20 complemented and provided the kind of counsel that Senator McClure needed to
21 navigate and negotiate a nearly 30-year stellar career in Idaho and federal
22 politics; and

23 WHEREAS, Louise met a tremendous number of leaders and spouses while
24 traveling as part of delegations and attending receptions and dinners. She
25 had the honor and pleasure of meeting all United States presidents and first
26 ladies from President Lyndon B. Johnson and First Lady "Lady Bird" Johnson
27 through President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush; and

28 WHEREAS, supporting and fostering the arts, Louise's fine arts ed-
29 ucation and talents were welcomed in Washington, D.C., and she became
30 recognized as a champion for the arts. In 1983, she was the driving force
31 for "Sawtooths and Other Ranges of the Imagination," an Idaho art exhibit at
32 the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C. In 1991, President
33 George H.W. Bush appointed Louise to the National Council on the Arts, the
34 body that oversees the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). She helped
35 guide the NEA through a particularly challenging period during her six-year
36 term of service. Louise was a formidable champion, advocating tenaciously
37 to Congress and arts leadership for continued support of the NEA; and

38 WHEREAS, in 1990, Louise was honored to sponsor the Navy submarine
39 U.S.S. Boise, christening it by smashing a champagne bottle across its bow,
40 leading to lifelong relationships with its crew; and

41 WHEREAS, when her time in Washington, D.C., had ended, Louise focused on
42 advancing communities and the arts in Idaho. She served on the Boise Phil-
43 harmonic, Parents and Youth Against Drug Abuse, Boise State Radio, and the
44 Women's and Children's Alliance. In 2010, Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter
45 honored Louise and Jim by bestowing them with the Lifetime Achievement Award
46 at the Governor's Awards in the Arts; and

47 WHEREAS, Louise also took great pride in serving the University of
48 Idaho, sharing her leadership on numerous college and department advisory
49 boards, including the University Foundation; Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival;
50 College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences; and the Martin Institute. Jim

1 and Louise served as honorary cochairs of the "Campaign for Idaho" alongside
2 Malcolm and Carol Renfrew and Frank and Harriett Shrontz from 2000 to 2004.
3 The campaign was the first successful comprehensive campaign in University
4 of Idaho history, thanks in large part to the efforts of the McClures and
5 many other volunteers. Her service to the University of Idaho was honored
6 with the President's Medallion, Alumni Hall of Fame Award, and Distinguished
7 Idahoan Award. The university awarded her an honorary doctorate of Humane
8 Letters in 2012 and chose her to be commencement speaker in 2014; and

9 WHEREAS, the McClures also worked tirelessly to establish the James A.
10 and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research based at the University
11 of Idaho, recognizing the importance of solid facts and well-researched sci-
12 ence to making sound public policy decisions. Louise was gratified to see it
13 become an important contribution to the development of public policy and un-
14 derstanding in Idaho; and

15 WHEREAS, throughout her life, Louise was an involved citizen, concerned
16 about the civic life of our world. She always remained an engaged and en-
17 gaging farm girl from a small town in Idaho who grew up to live a storied
18 life, meeting presidents, the Pope, kings and queens, Mother Teresa, famous
19 artists and musicians, and impacting the lives of so many people in Idaho and
20 around the world. In addition to U.S. presidents and dignitaries, other no-
21 table international leaders and royalty she met include those from Britain,
22 Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand. Over her life, Louise visited
23 more than 80 countries. Forging connections with the partners and families
24 of world leaders was integral to Senator McClure's success, bridging policy-
25 making and community making; and

26 WHEREAS, Louise passed away on September 19, 2021. Due to the pandemic,
27 no services in honor of Louise were held. Louise is missed by her many
28 friends, and in particular by her family, including her daughter Marilyn
29 Roach (Randy), her son Ken (Sally), her son David (Cheryl), grandchildren
30 Emily McClure (Trevor Lindsay), Katie Moon (Jarrett), Dillon Roach (Holly),
31 Eileen Archer (Scott), Joel McClure (Shanin), Kevin McClure (Melissa), and
32 seven great-grandchildren.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular
34 Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives
35 and the Senate concurring therein, that the State of Idaho recognizes the
36 outstanding contributions that Louise McClure made to the people of Idaho
37 through her selfless public service and commitment to the arts.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature will recognize March
39 30, 2022, as "Louise McClure Day" in honor of her extraordinary impact on
40 Idaho and the world.