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HOUSE MEMORIAL 109

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Patricia A. Lundstrom and Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TO INTERVIEW, RECORD AND ARCHIVE A DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVE NICK L. SALAZAR ABOUT HIS POLITICAL CAREER AND HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN HIS LIFETIME.

WHEREAS, Representative Nick L. Salazar has led a long and illustrious career in the state legislature; and

WHEREAS, after forty-six years as a state representative for district 40, Representative Salazar will retire at the end of 2018; and

WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was first elected to the house of representatives in 1972 in a district that covers parts of Colfax, Mora, Rio Arriba and San Miguel counties; and

WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is New Mexico's longest-serving legislator and is among the ten longest-serving members

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1 of any legislature in the country; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was born April 18, 1929 in
3 the small town of Chamita, one mile west of the Pueblo of San
4 Juan; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar began his political career
6 as a commissioner for Rio Arriba county; and

7 WHEREAS, during the early days of his political career,
8 Representative Salazar was a participant in a historic event
9 that is recognized and discussed to this day; and

10 WHEREAS, in June 1967, during his tenure as a county
11 commissioner, Representative Salazar was held hostage for a few
12 hours by Reies Lopez Tijerina in the infamous Rio Arriba county
13 courthouse raid in Tierra Amarilla; and

14 WHEREAS, during his tenure in the house of
15 representatives, Representative Salazar gained a breadth of
16 experience by serving on many standing and interim committees;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was the chair of the house
19 rules and order of business committee and is a member of the
20 house agriculture and water resources committee and the house
21 appropriations and finance committee; and

22 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Representative Salazar also
23 served on the house consumer and public affairs committee; the
24 house energy and natural resources committee; the house health
25 and government affairs committee; the house health, government

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1 and Indian affairs committee; and numerous other standing
2 committees; and

3 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar also served on many
4 interim committees as a member and chair, where his many years
5 on the Indian affairs committee allowed him to travel and visit
6 with tribal communities and become an even stronger advocate
7 for Native Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has been a strong advocate
9 for senior citizen programs and is proud to have championed
10 this cause; and

11 WHEREAS, Native American issues have been at the forefront
12 of Representative Salazar's support from the beginning of his
13 legislative tenure; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has been a staunch
15 supporter of education throughout his career, supporting
16 funding to advance all of New Mexico's colleges and
17 universities; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has led a rich and varied
19 political career and has experienced historically significant
20 events in his lifetime; and

21 WHEREAS, interviewing and recording Representative Salazar
22 discussing his political career and participation in historical
23 events and archiving this information for posterity would be a
24 valuable service in retaining New Mexico's history;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

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1 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the cultural
2 affairs department be requested to interview, record and
3 archive a discussion with Representative Nick L. Salazar about
4 his political career and historically significant events
5 experienced in his lifetime; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the secretary of cultural affairs and
8 Representative Nick L. Salazar.

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