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SENATE MEMORIAL 67

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

A MEMORIAL

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE TOMÁS E. SALAZAR AND RECOGNIZING HIS
SIGNIFICANT SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP TO NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, after four terms and eight years as a state
representative for District 70, Tomás E. Salazar, a Democrat,
is retiring at the end of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was first elected to the
house of representatives in 2012 in a district that covers
parts of San Miguel, Santa Fe and Torrance counties; and

WHEREAS, Representative Salazar ran a highly effective
campaign and first won the District 70 seat in 2012, faced
opposition in 2014 and ran unopposed in the 2016 and 2018
elections; and

WHEREAS, Representative Salazar focused his campaign on
what he considered urgent issues that mattered to his

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1 constituents, such as education, water supply and economic
2 development; and

3 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar is a former New Mexico
4 highlands university professor who earned a bachelor of science
5 degree in mathematics from New Mexico highlands university in
6 1965, a master's degree in mathematics from the university of
7 Montana in 1969 and a Ph.D. in mathematics from the university
8 of New Mexico in 1976; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar retired after holding
10 various positions at New Mexico highlands university, including
11 dean of the college of arts and sciences, as well as positions
12 at the university of New Mexico, Sandia national laboratories
13 and elsewhere; and

14 WHEREAS, respected as a savvy numbers cruncher,
15 Representative Salazar put his expertise to work on the house
16 appropriations and finance committee, of which he was a member
17 from 2013 through the 2020 legislative session; and

18 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar also was a proud member of
19 the higher education committee in 2019 and member of the house
20 education committee from 2013 through the 2020 legislative
21 session and a member of the house enrolling and engrossing
22 committee from 2013 to 2014; and

23 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was a member of the house
24 special investigatory committee on the consideration of an
25 impeachment process from 2015 to 2016; and

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1 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was very active on the
2 investments and pensions oversight committee, serving as an
3 advisory member from 2015 to 2016, the committee chair from
4 2017 to 2018 and as a member in 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was an advisory member on
6 the New Mexico finance authority oversight committee from 2015
7 to 2018 and served as chair in 2019; and

8 WHEREAS, other interim committees on which Representative
9 Salazar served were the land grant committee, the legislative
10 education study committee, the legislative finance committee,
11 the revenue stabilization and tax policy committee and the
12 water and natural resources committee; and

13 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar has served as an integral
14 leader of the New Mexico association of educational retirees,
15 AARP-New Mexico, the volunteer engagement advisory council of
16 AARP and habitat for humanity-Las Vegas; and

17 WHEREAS, Representative Salazar was a lifelong member of
18 the national education association; and

19 WHEREAS, from the beginning of his legislative career,
20 Representative Salazar's approach was to get local entities to
21 join forces across the region to approach issues from a region-
22 based standpoint, rather than as individuals; and

23 WHEREAS, as an educator, Representative Salazar is
24 passionate about increasing the opportunity for accessible,
25 quality public education in New Mexico; and

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