



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

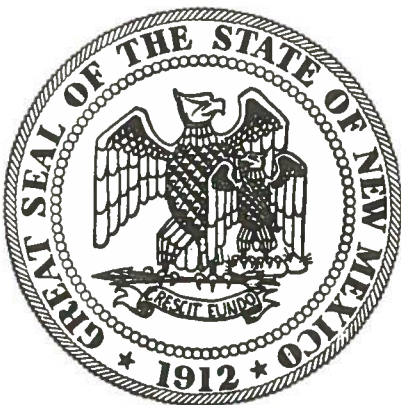
CHAPTER _____

HOUSE MEMORIAL 64

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVE W. KEN MARTINEZ

AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE NEW MEXICO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BEN
3 LUJAN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO AND WISHING
4 HIM WELL ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATURE.
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6 WHEREAS, Ben Lujan began his service in the house of
7 representatives in 1975, before more than one-third of the
8 current members of the house were even eligible to vote; and

9 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan was elected by his caucus to be
10 majority whip in 1983 and majority floor leader in 1999,
11 before being elected speaker of the house of representatives
12 in 2001, placing him among just a handful of legislators
13 across the country who have served in leadership positions
14 continuously for thirty years; and

15 WHEREAS, the significantly diverse range of talents and
16 experience that each leadership position demands of its holder
17 has shown Speaker Lujan's ability to understand, learn and
18 successfully master a unique skill to perform each one with a
19 common thread of dedication to the integrity and effectiveness
20 of the house of representatives in serving New Mexicans; and

21 WHEREAS, Representative Lujan, Majority Whip Lujan,
22 Majority Leader Lujan, Speaker Lujan has committed himself to
23 issues that have a dramatic impact on each New Mexican and
24 allows the citizen legislature to be a clear way to help make
25 daily life better for the people he is serving; and

1 WHEREAS, during his long service in the house of
2 representatives, Speaker Lujan has fought tirelessly to
3 protect homeowners from suddenly escalating property taxes; to
4 boost the minimum wage for New Mexicans; to attract new
5 businesses with job training programs and tax incentives; to
6 improve New Mexico roads, highways, public buildings and other
7 infrastructure; and to ensure that New Mexico's water supply
8 remains plentiful and clean; and

9 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan also found time to pose the
10 official state question, "Red or Green?", although it took him
11 eight years and all of his political skill to forge the
12 consummate compromise and to answer the question with
13 "Christmas"; and

14 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan championed legislative reform
15 efforts, including implementation of a new member orientation,
16 which, while accepted as routine today, was not offered to the
17 newly elected Ben Lujan and his peers as more veteran
18 legislators sought to maintain their power, control and
19 authority over the legislative process; and

20 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan knows the importance of providing
21 excellent constituent services and has helped countless
22 residents of his northern New Mexican district, as well as
23 other New Mexicans, wade through the bureaucracy of state
24 government; and

25 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan repeatedly demonstrates an

1 unmatched stamina during marathon floor sessions, committee
2 hearings and meetings during the legislative sessions and an
3 unequaled ability to gauge the fate of key legislation, as
4 well as work to bring it to the house in a form that can
5 garner majority support; and

6 WHEREAS, his understanding of the role in making party
7 leadership successful is reflected in his unfailing loyalty to
8 those who have contributed so significantly to that success
9 and his own appreciation of those who have supported his
10 leadership; and

11 WHEREAS, Speaker Lujan's tenacity and no-nonsense
12 demeanor in the legislative arena often lead casual observers
13 to mistakenly believe that his legislative efforts are
14 paramount in his life, while the few who know him better
15 understand that his deep affection for Carmen, his wife and
16 life-long partner, their children and their grandchildren have
17 been, are and will forever be foremost in his head and heart;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that constant and
20 continuing gratitude be expressed to Ben Lujan, the man, the
21 friend and the neighbor who has been willing to serve, and to
22 Speaker Ben Lujan, the leader, the inspiration and the
23 embodiment of success in his thirty years of leadership; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
25 OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO join with the people of New Mexico

1 in showing support for his continuing efforts and wishing
2 Speaker Ben Lujan the same kind of future success he has
3 shared over the years.

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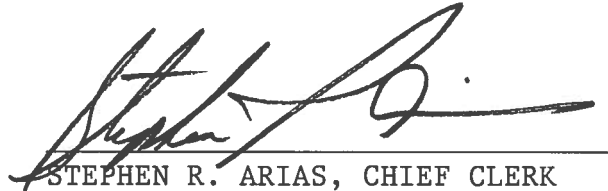
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Handwritten signature of Ben Lujan in black ink, written in a cursive style.

BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Handwritten signature of Stephen R. Arias in black ink, written in a cursive style.

STEPHEN R. ARIAS, CHIEF CLERK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES