

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14—SENATORS DENIS, OHRENSCHALL; BROOKS, BUCK, CANNIZZARO, DONATE, DONDERO LOOP, GOICOECHEA, HAMMOND, HANSEN, HARDY, D. HARRIS, KIECKHEFER, LANGE, NEAL, PICKARD, RATTI, SCHEIBLE, SEEVERS GANSERT, SETTELMAYER AND SPEARMAN

MAY 24, 2021

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN FLORES; ANDERSON, BENITEZ-THOMPSON, BILBRAY-AXELROD, BLACK, BROWN-MAY, CARLTON, COHEN, CONSIDINE, DICKMAN, DURAN, ELLISON, FRIERSON, GONZÁLEZ, GORELOW, HAFEN, HANSEN, HARDY, JAUREGUI, KASAMA, KRASNER, LEAVITT, MARTINEZ, MARZOLA, MATTHEWS, MCARTHUR, BRITTNEY MILLER, C.H. MILLER, MONROE-MORENO, NGUYEN, O’NEILL, ORENTLICHER, PETERS, ROBERTS, SUMMERS-ARMSTRONG, THOMAS, TITUS, TOLLES, TORRES, WATTS, WHEELER AND YEAGER

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Memorializes former District Court Judge Don P. Chairez. (BDR R-1140)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing former District Court Judge Don P. Chairez.

1 WHEREAS, The members of the 81st Session of the Nevada
2 Legislature note with profound sorrow the passing of Don P.
3 Chairez from complications related to COVID-19; and

4 WHEREAS, Don was born on September 29, 1955, in Fort
5 Leonard Wood, Missouri to Pedro and Clotilde Chairez, the family
6 moving to the Sacramento area in 1965 after the retirement of his
7 father, an Army Master Sergeant; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduating summa cum laude from high school
9 and magna cum laude from Loma Linda University, Don graduated



1 from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1980
2 and began his career in private practice focusing on immigration
3 law; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1990, Don began working as a deputy district
5 attorney for Clark County, and within 4 years was appointed to the
6 Eighth Judicial District Court by Governor Bob Miller and was
7 subsequently elected to that position; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Chairez co-authored the “People’s Initiative to
9 Stop the Taking of Our Land” (PISTOL) which became Section 22
10 of Article 1 of the Nevada Constitution, adding eminent domain
11 rules that protect landowners; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1996, Judge Chairez was honored by the Nevada
13 Conference of Police and Sheriffs as “Judge of the Year” for his
14 willingness to make himself available to law enforcement 24 hours a
15 day, whenever a search warrant was requested; and

16 WHEREAS, Over his 40-year legal career, Judge Chairez
17 presided over 25 murder trials and served as counsel in
18 approximately 90 jury trials; and

19 WHEREAS, Judge Chairez was known for his compassion in the
20 courtroom, and would often say, “The law is not just about a bunch
21 of words on a piece of paper, but about people’s lives”; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
24 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 81st Session of
25 the Nevada Legislature memorialize Don P. Chairez and extend
26 their deepest condolences to Don’s beloved wife, Maria, and their
27 two daughters, Monica and Marina, as well as the members of his
28 extended family; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the legacy of Don P. Chairez’s legal career and
30 service to this State will long be remembered, setting a precedent for
31 compassion and defending the underdog; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
33 transmit a copy of this resolution to Maria Chairez; and be it further

34 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
35 adoption.

