

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, Settelmeyer and Spearman

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

FILE NUMBER.....

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

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

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

WHEREAS, After graduating summa cum laude from high school and magna cum laude from Loma Linda University, Don graduated from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1980 and began his career in private practice focusing on immigration law; and

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

