

House Engrossed

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-eighth Legislature
First Regular Session
2007

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2052

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE CARMEN CAJERO.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 The Honorable Carmen Cajero, a member of the Arizona House of
2 Representatives for twenty-four years, passed away on April 1, 2007.

3 Carmen Cajero was born on October 28, 1915 in Morenci, Arizona to
4 Adolpho and Aja Gabina Fernandez. Carmen married Bernardo "Nayo" Cajero
5 after their graduation from Morenci High School. They settled in the Tucson
6 area where they raised two daughters and were active in their community.
7 Carmen worked in public service, first for the Tucson school system and later
8 for the Department of Motor Vehicles. Carmen and her husband became
9 interested in politics, and in 1968 Bernardo was elected to the Arizona House
10 of Representatives. Carmen accompanied him to Phoenix during the session,
11 and during the long commute to and from the Capitol they spent many hours
12 discussing legislation, issues and the needs of constituents.

13 In 1973, Bernardo died unexpectedly in office. Carmen and Bernardo had
14 been married thirty-seven years. Carmen Cajero was appointed to finish his
15 legislative term, channeling her grief into productive work. Her
16 constituents continued to reelect her to the House of Representatives every
17 two years, and she served ably in this capacity until her retirement in 1996.
18 Among her notable accomplishments was her sponsorship of legislation that
19 ended the practice of requiring Arizona's schoolchildren to pay for their own
20 textbooks. Carmen Cajero was also diligent in protecting the interests of
21 the University of Arizona in legislative budget negotiations, and she was
22 instrumental in the creation of the state's first bone marrow program at the
23 university's medical center.

24 Carmen Cajero enjoyed her job and the many people she met on a daily
25 basis. She served on numerous committees and was a member in good standing
26 of the National Order of Women Legislators, the Democrats of Greater Tucson
27 and State Women Legislators. Her position as a legislator led her to serve
28 on the Alcoholism Council of Tucson and several other worthwhile committees.

29 Dedicated to her family, Carmen Cajero is survived by her two
30 daughters, Representative Olivia Cajero Bedford and Monica Cajero, and her
31 two grandchildren, Tara and Travis Bedford. She will be greatly missed by
32 her family, her friends and the people of the State of Arizona.

33 Therefore

34 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the
35 Senate concurring:

36 That the Members of the Legislature express regret at the passing of
37 the Honorable Carmen Cajero and extend their deepest sympathies to her
38 surviving family members.