JOINT COMMENDATION 1S

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of New Mexico (ASUNM) is
the representative body of the undergraduate students and promotes student
success; and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati is currently a student at the University of New Mexico
(UNM); and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati was born in Eritrea, moved to the United States, and
graduated from Heritage High School (HHS) in Leesburg, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati had a successful high school career winning the 2015
Foot Locker National Cross Country Championship, the 2016 New Balance
Indoor 5000m and two-mile National Championship, Virginia State Champion in
Cross Country in the 3200m, and helped HHS win the 2015 Virginia 4A State Title\(^1\); and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati is a member of the UNM Track and Field Team, as well as
the UNM Cross Country Team; and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati has broken several records and received multiple honors
including All-Mountain West Indoor and Outdoor in 2018 as well as 2019, Second
Team All-American in 2018, First Team All-American in 2018 as well as 2019, and
the 2019 United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association
Mountain Region Indoor and Outdoor Women’s Track Athlete of the Year\(^2\); and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati is the first Lobo to win an NCAA Championship in the
10,000m with a time of 33:10.84\(^3\); and

WHEREAS, Weini Kelati won the NCAA Cross Country individual title with a time of
19:47.5, becoming the second individual winner in UNM Cross Country history\(^4\);

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\(^1\) https://golobos.com/roster.aspx?rp_id=7682
\(^2\) https://golobos.com/roster.aspx?rp_id=7682
\(^3\) https://www.kob.com/sports/weini-kelati-becomes-first-lobo-to-win-ncaa-championship-in-10000m/5380665/
\(^4\) https://www.espn.com/college-sports/story/_/Going-November222019/from-running-start-eritrea-new-home-america-weini-kelati-wins-ncaa-cross-country-title
and

**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE COMMENDED**, that ASUNM congratulates Weini Kelati for her numerous achievements and honors; and

**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER COMMENDED**, that a copy of this commendation be forwarded to the UNM Board of Regents, UNM President Garnett S. Stokes, UNM Provost James Holloway, UNM Vice President for Student Affairs Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, UNM Dean of Students Nasha Torrez, UNM Athletics Director Eddie Nuñez, UNM Track and Field/Cross Country Head Coach Joe Franklin, the UNM Track and Field Team, the UNM Cross Country Team, and Weini Kelati.

Adopted by the Associated Students of the University of New Mexico on this 29th day of January, 2020

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Adam Biederwolf, ASUNM President

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Madelyn Lucas, ASUNM Vice President

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Emma Hotz, ASUNM President Pro-Tempore