

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 16, 2017 "MEDAL OF HONOR DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES AND HONORING NEW MEXICO HEROES.

4
5 WHEREAS, New Mexicans recognize the sacrifices that
6 military men and women make to preserve the freedoms that
7 individuals have today; and

8 WHEREAS, in honor of those sacrifices, the medal of
9 honor was created during the American Civil War as the
10 highest military decoration presented by the United States
11 government to a member of the armed forces; and

12 WHEREAS, to qualify for the medal of honor, the
13 recipient must have engaged in distinguished actions at the
14 risk of the recipient's own life, above and beyond the call
15 of duty, against an enemy of the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, recipients of the medal of honor are
17 categorized by the state in which they enlisted or served;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico is credited with nine medal of honor
20 recipients; and

21 WHEREAS, April 6, 2017 is the fiftieth anniversary of
22 United States army Specialist Fourth Class Daniel D.
23 Fernandez being awarded the medal of honor posthumously on
24 April 6, 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson; and

25 WHEREAS, Specialist Fernandez was a native New Mexican

1 from Valencia county who served in the United States army;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, on February 18, 1966, in Hau Nghia province,
4 Republic of Vietnam, Specialist Fernandez showed great valor
5 when he threw himself on an exploding grenade while shielding
6 four soldiers attending to a wounded officer nearby, thereby
7 saving their lives at the sacrifice of his own; and

8 WHEREAS, United States army Staff Sergeant Leroy A.
9 Petry, a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, received the medal
10 of honor on July 12, 2011 for his courageous actions in
11 Afghanistan during the war on terror; and

12 WHEREAS, United States army Staff Sergeant Franklin D.
13 Miller of Albuquerque, New Mexico, saw action during the
14 Vietnam War and received the medal of honor on June 15, 1971;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, United States army Corporal Hiroshi Miyamura, a
17 Gallup native, saw action during the Korean War and received
18 the medal of honor on November 4, 1953; and

19 WHEREAS, United States army Captain Robert S. Scott
20 enlisted in Santa Fe, New Mexico, during World War II and was
21 recognized for his actions on Okinawa, Japan, and received
22 the medal of honor on October 14, 1944; and

23 WHEREAS, United States army Private First Class
24 Alejandro R. Ruiz, who was born in Loving, New Mexico,
25 received the medal of honor on June 14, 1946 for his heroic

1 conduct during World War II; and

2 WHEREAS, United States marine Lieutenant Alexander
3 Bonnyman, Jr., was awarded the medal of honor on October 28,
4 1946 for his valor during World War II; and

5 WHEREAS, during the Indian campaigns, calvary Private
6 Eben Stanley was awarded the medal of honor for his gallantry
7 in action in Arizona on March 25 and March 27, 1873, and
8 cavalry First Sergeant Francis Oliver received the medal of
9 honor for his gallantry in battle on October 20, 1869; and

10 WHEREAS, the following seven medal of honor recipients
11 were born in New Mexico but either moved to, or enlisted in
12 the military service from, another state, to which their
13 award was credited: United States army Private Joe P.
14 Martinez; United States army Private Harold H. Moon, Jr.;
15 United States army Private First Class Jose F. Valdez; United
16 States army air forces Brigadier General Kenneth N. Walker;
17 United States army Staff Sergeant Delbert O. Jennings; United
18 States army Sergeant First Class Louis R. Rocco; and United
19 States marine Lance Corporal Kenneth L. Worley; and

20 WHEREAS, it is incumbent on New Mexicans of all ages to
21 recognize how the life, service and honorable sacrifices of
22 these bravest of men contribute to the rich and proud history
23 of New Mexico;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 16,

1 2017 be declared "Medal of Honor Day" in the house of
2 representatives; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the adjutant general of the department of
5 military affairs, the national honor society at Valencia high
6 school and the family of Daniel D. Fernandez.

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