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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 38
49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY
Thomas A. Garcia

A JOINT MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO CREATE AN
INTERIM VETERANS' AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, there are approximately two hundred thousand
veterans and active duty members of the United States armed
forces and the New Mexico national guard who reside in this
state; and

WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2008, approximately five
thousand two hundred members of the New Mexico national guard
were activated and deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and other
foreign locations in support of the war on terror; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, it is anticipated that approximately
eight hundred fifty members of the New Mexico national guard
will be activated and deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and other
foreign locations in support of the war on terror; and

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1 WHEREAS, the adjutant general is the head of the
2 department of military affairs and is a member of the
3 governor's cabinet; and

4 WHEREAS, the veterans' services department was created in
5 2004 as a cabinet-level department; and

6 WHEREAS, veterans' and military affairs are key policy
7 issues for the legislature; and

8 WHEREAS, numerous bills related to veterans' and military
9 issues have been introduced in recent sessions of the
10 legislature; and

11 WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes an overdue need to
12 focus on veterans' and military affairs; and

13 WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes a responsibility to
14 coordinate legislative initiatives related to veterans' and
15 military affairs;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
18 requested to create an interim veterans' and military affairs
19 committee to work with the veterans' services department, the
20 department of military affairs and related agencies to make
21 recommendations for legislative initiatives to address the
22 findings of the committee; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interim veterans' and
24 military affairs committee develop recommendations by November
25 30, 2009 to assist the appropriate state agencies in

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1 formulating legislative proposals necessary to implement the
2 recommendations; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the secretary of veterans' services, the
5 adjutant general of the department of military affairs and the
6 co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

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