

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 54

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DECLARE THE NEW MEXICO
DWI VICTIMS MEMORIAL OF PERPETUAL TEARS, WHICH HONORS VICTIMS
OF DWI, AS THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL DWI VICTIMS MEMORIAL.

WHEREAS, the memorial of perpetual tears, located thirty-
eight miles east of Albuquerque in the city of Moriarty, opened
in November 2008 and is now receiving visitors Monday through
Friday of each week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the memorial of perpetual tears is a visible
statement to the world expressing what words cannot by
portraying fatalities and injuries caused by DWI; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the memorial is to recognize and
give comfort to victims of DWI and their families by providing
visual evidence of pain and sorrow that cannot be denied; and

WHEREAS, the memorial offers public education on site

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1 regarding DWI in the areas of law, prevention, statistics,
2 resources and available services; and

3 WHEREAS, the front field of markers at the memorial
4 resembles a federal cemetery with eight hundred forty-nine
5 markers representing the most recent five-year period of deaths
6 in New Mexico attributed to DWI; and

7 WHEREAS, during that same five-year period, eighty-four
8 thousand lives were lost in the nation due to DWI; and

9 WHEREAS, the memorial was developed over a period of five
10 years through the dedicated support of the city of Moriarty and
11 with generous financial support from the legislature, the city
12 and private donations, including a donation of four acres of
13 land; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2006, the city of Moriarty voted to develop an
15 additional phase of the memorial to recognize the victims of
16 DWI nationwide, and funding is currently being sought to
17 complete that phase of development; and

18 WHEREAS, the memorial of perpetual tears is the first
19 memorial of its kind not only in New Mexico but in the nation;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the memorial has achieved media recognition
22 nationwide and continues to attract national visitors who are
23 traveling on interstate 40, many of whom make the memorial the
24 actual destination of their trip;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States congress be
2 requested to declare the New Mexico DWI victims memorial of
3 perpetual tears, which honors victims of DWI, as the official
4 national DWI victims memorial; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the members of the New Mexico congressional
7 delegation.

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