

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 2

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A SENATE MEMORIAL

DECLARING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2011, AS "UNITED STATES ARMY  
RANGER SERGEANT FIRST CLASS LEROY A. PETRY DAY AT THE SENATE".

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2011, Sergeant First Class Leroy A.  
Petry received the medal of honor from President Barack Obama  
at the White House; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Petry graduated from St. Catherine  
Indian school in Santa Fe in 1998; and

WHEREAS, he attended New Mexico highlands university for a  
year before deciding to enlist with the United States Army  
rangers in September 1999; and

WHEREAS, he was in the middle of training when the  
September 11, 2001 attacks happened; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2008, his unit was pinned down by  
heavy enemy fire during a rare Army ranger daytime raid in the

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 remote eastern part of Paktia province, Afghanistan; and

2 WHEREAS, he was already shot and wounded in both his legs  
3 when an enemy grenade exploded near his location, wounding some  
4 of his comrades, and moments later, another grenade landed even  
5 closer; and

6 WHEREAS, Sergeant Petry grabbed the grenade to throw it  
7 away from his unit, but it detonated as he released it, and the  
8 grenade blew off his right hand; and

9 WHEREAS, Sergeant Petry underwent extensive rehabilitation  
10 and was fitted with a prosthetic bionic hand, but rather than  
11 retire from military service, he asked to remain enlisted on  
12 active-duty status and be sent back to Afghanistan; and

13 WHEREAS, he is the first medal of honor recipient from the  
14 seventy-fifth ranger regiment, only the second active-duty  
15 person since the end of the Vietnam war to be awarded the medal  
16 of honor, the ninth soldier to receive the medal from the wars  
17 in Iraq and Afghanistan and the thirteenth medal of honor  
18 recipient from New Mexico; and

19 WHEREAS, he has served two hundred thirty combat missions  
20 and has been deployed eight times to Iraq and Afghanistan; and

21 WHEREAS, he has already received two bronze stars, one  
22 purple heart, three Army commendation medals, two Army  
23 achievement medals, three army good conduct medals, the  
24 valorous unit award, the national defense service medal, the  
25 Afghanistan campaign medal with combat star, the Iraq campaign

.187186.3

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 medal with combat star and the global war on terrorism  
2 expeditionary and service medals; and

3 WHEREAS, he enjoys golf, pheasant hunting and fishing and  
4 is pursuing a bachelor of science degree in business management  
5 at Pierce college in Washington state;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
7 OF NEW MEXICO that Sunday, September 11, 2011, be declared  
8 "United States Army Ranger Sergeant First Class Leroy A. Petry  
9 Day at the Senate"; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
11 transmitted to United States Army Ranger Sergeant First Class  
12 Leroy A. Petry.