1 A MEMORIAL 2 REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE MARCH 29, 2016 AS "VIETNAM 3 VETERANS DAY" IN NEW MEXICO. 4 5 WHEREAS, the Vietnam veterans of New Mexico served their 6 country with honor and courage; and 7 WHEREAS, New Mexico had more soldiers per capita than any other state who either enlisted or were drafted during 8 9 the Vietnam war; and WHEREAS, New Mexico suffered three hundred ninety-nine 10 casualties during the Vietnam war; and 11 WHEREAS, thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines 12 and members of the coast guard returned home bearing wounds 13 and scars; and 14 WHEREAS, many more were burdened by the invisible wounds 15 of posttraumatic stress disorder, agent orange and memories 16 that will never fade; and 17 WHEREAS, many service members came home to be neglected 18 or to face treatment unbefitting their courageous and 19 honorable service; and 20 WHEREAS, Vietnam veterans have continued to pay a great 21 price for the freedom that all people enjoy; and 22 WHEREAS, many Vietnam veterans returned home to become 23

leaders in business, their communities and the political

arena and have continued to serve as examples of service to

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others; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico owes a great debt to the veterans of the Vietnam war;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to declare March 29, 2016 as "Vietnam Veterans Day" in New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that recognition be given to all Vietnam veterans throughout New Mexico for their service to their country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the governor, the secretary of veterans' services and the New Mexico president of Vietnam veterans of America.