

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 18, 2016 "DANIEL D. FERNANDEZ MEMORIAL
3 DAY" IN THE SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, New Mexicans recognize the sacrifices that
6 New Mexico's military men and women gave of themselves during
7 wartime to preserve the freedoms we have today; and

8 WHEREAS, Daniel D. Fernandez was a native New Mexican
9 from Valencia county who served in the United States army
10 during the early years of the Vietnam conflict; and

11 WHEREAS, on February 18, 1966, in Hau Nghia province,
12 republic of Vietnam, Daniel showed great valor when he threw
13 himself on an exploding grenade while shielding four soldiers
14 attending to a wounded officer nearby, thereby saving their
15 lives at the sacrifice of his own; and

16 WHEREAS, Daniel was honored with the highest honor given
17 a soldier for valor in wartime, the medal of honor, on
18 April 6, 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson; and

19 WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens, especially
20 the young students of New Mexico just being introduced to
21 Daniel's story, understand how his life, service and
22 honorable sacrifice contributed to the rich and proud history
23 of Valencia county and the state; and

24 WHEREAS, February 18, 2016 is the fiftieth anniversary
25 of Daniel's death in Vietnam;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 18, 2016 be declared
"Daniel D. Fernandez Memorial Day" in the senate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
transmitted to the national honor society at Valencia high
school in Los Lunas and to Daniel's surviving brother,
Peter Fernandez of Los Lunas.