

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 107

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Richard C. Martinez

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
12 SPECIAL AGENT MICHAEL S. VIGIL AND HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

13  
14 WHEREAS, Michael S. Vigil served as a special agent for  
15 the United States drug enforcement administration for thirty-  
16 one years and is considered a legend within the agency for his  
17 dangerous undercover exploits; and

18 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil was one of the most highly  
19 decorated agents and worked in foreign countries for eighteen  
20 years and was the first American made an honorary general in  
21 Afghanistan; and

22 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil also was given the key to the  
23 city of Shanghai and made an honorary admiral by the Dominican  
24 Republic; and

25 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil received a national

1 association of police organizations' "top cops" award, the most  
2 prestigious award in law enforcement, with only ten recipients  
3 receiving the award annually out of thousands of submissions  
4 nationwide; and

5 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil risked his life in undercover  
6 operations in which he penetrated some of the most powerful and  
7 violent drug cartels in Mexico, Colombia and other countries;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil reached the highest levels of  
10 the senior executive services and served as the special agent  
11 in charge of the Caribbean and San Diego drug enforcement  
12 administration divisions; and

13 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil was made the drug enforcement  
14 administration's chief of international operations, in which he  
15 was responsible for all personnel offices worldwide, including  
16 Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Central and South Asia,  
17 Africa and Southeast Asia; and

18 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil was responsible for several  
19 multinational operations, the largest of which involved thirty-  
20 six countries; and

21 WHEREAS, after the fall of the Taliban in Afghanistan,  
22 Special Agent Vigil initiated operation containment, a heralded  
23 and dynamic initiative that included twenty-five countries,  
24 including Russia and China, which is still funded by the United  
25 States congress today; and

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1           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is also responsible for the  
2 development of global centers for drug intelligence that allow  
3 most countries in the world to collect and share valuable  
4 information in the international campaign against illicit  
5 drugs; and

6           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil has been featured in numerous  
7 books, including *Kings of Cocaine; The Last Narco: Inside the*  
8 *Hunt for El Chapo, the World's Most Wanted Drug Lord; The Black*  
9 *Hand; La DEA en Mexico; Con La Muerte En El Bolsillo; A Dying*  
10 *Breed; Queenpins;* and others; and

11           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is the author of a highly  
12 acclaimed book, *Deal*, that recounts his dangerous career as an  
13 undercover agent for the drug enforcement administration; and

14           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is considered a renowned  
15 international expert on drug trafficking and terrorism and  
16 regularly appears on the Cable News network, the Fox News  
17 channel, Telemundo, Univision, Al Jazeera, the National  
18 Broadcasting company, the American Broadcasting company and the  
19 Columbia Broadcasting system; and

20           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil has been featured in articles  
21 by the *Associated Press, the New York Times, the Washington*  
22 *Post, Time Magazine, GlobalPost, the Economist, the Los Angeles*  
23 *Times, the New Yorker, the Houston Chronicle* and numerous  
24 international newspapers; and

25           WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is also a contributor to the

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1 prestigious Cipher Brief; and

2 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil has been cited as a hero to  
3 the country of Afghanistan and the entire region; and

4 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is an internationally  
5 renowned expert in counter-drug operations, is recognized for  
6 his strategic planning and multinational operations and is  
7 highly respected by many nations of the world; and

8 WHEREAS, Special Agent Vigil is a proud son of New Mexico,  
9 born and raised in the Espanola valley and a graduate of New  
10 Mexico state university; and

11 WHEREAS, patriotism runs deep in the Vigil family, as  
12 Special Agent Vigil's father was a survivor of the Bataan death  
13 march and was held as a prisoner of war for three and one-half  
14 years;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
16 OF NEW MEXICO that United States drug enforcement  
17 administration Special Agent Michael S. Vigil be recognized for  
18 his patriotic service to the United States, his many  
19 contributions in the fight against illicit drugs and his global  
20 assistance to other countries in the international campaign  
21 against illicit drugs; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to Special Agent Michael S. Vigil.