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HOUSE MEMORIAL 53

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

INTRODUCED BY

Harry Garcia and Joseph L. Sanchez and Eliseo Lee Alcon and  
Debra M. Sariñana and Alan T. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING FEBRUARY 20, 2023 "MILITARY AND VETERANS DAY" IN THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, the nation was founded on the belief that all  
Americans live in a free society and are guaranteed the  
inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of  
happiness; and

WHEREAS, these freedoms everyone enjoys do not come  
without a price, and they have been fought for and defended by  
the nation's military service members who have sacrificed to  
preserve and protect those freedoms and the country from all  
enemies, foreign and domestic; and

WHEREAS, there exists in New Mexico a long and proud  
history of military service by its residents, dating back to  
the indigenous peoples who were willing to fight for, and

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1 defend, their land from European settlers; and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexicans turned back the Confederacy at the  
3 battle of Glorieta pass in northern New Mexico in 1862; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexicans were an integral part of Teddy  
5 Roosevelt's famed "rough riders", who helped drive off Spain  
6 from Cuba and led to victory in the Spanish-American War; and

7 WHEREAS, in World War I, fourteen thousand one hundred New  
8 Mexicans served; forty-nine thousand five hundred New Mexicans  
9 served in World War II; twenty-five thousand New Mexicans  
10 served in the Korean conflict; fifty-seven thousand New  
11 Mexicans served in the Vietnam conflict; and more than fifty  
12 thousand New Mexicans have served since the Gulf War; and

13 WHEREAS, with four military installations, twelve thousand  
14 seven hundred active-duty personnel, four thousand national  
15 guard and reserve members, as well as one hundred forty-one  
16 thousand veterans living in the state, military influence  
17 remains a strong part of the fabric of New Mexico today;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that recognition be  
20 extended to New Mexico's military personnel and veterans by  
21 declaring February 20, 2023 "Military and Veterans Day" in the  
22 house of representatives; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico's current and  
24 former military service members be honored and thanked for  
25 their service and sacrifice for the country; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the secretary-designate of veterans' services.