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SENATE MEMORIAL 25

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2002

INTRODUCED BY

Ben D. Altamirano

A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES LATINO AND LATINA WORLD WAR II  
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT AND ENCOURAGING NEW MEXICANS TO  
PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT.

WHEREAS, World War II was a major turning point for  
United States Latinos and Latinas, changing the worldviews of  
an entire generation; and

WHEREAS, World War II left few lives untouched, and even  
those young men and women who were unable to join the fighting  
forces would never be the same; and

WHEREAS, in the following years, these men and women made  
astounding civil rights advancements in school desegregation,  
in voting rights and in basic civil rights; and

WHEREAS, powerful organizations grew out of this era,  
including the American G.I. forum and the Mexican American

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1 legal defense and educational fund; and

2 WHEREAS, while there have been a few excellent books and  
3 articles that document these events, little attention has been  
4 paid to the average Latino and Latina of the World War II  
5 generation; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States Latino and Latina World War II  
7 oral history project, based at the university of Texas at  
8 Austin school of journalism, seeks to capture the stories of  
9 the average Latino and Latina of the World War II generation;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the project is videotaping interviews with these  
12 men and women throughout the country; and

13 WHEREAS, the project will create an oral history archive,  
14 a photographic archive, a web site, a general interest book  
15 and a documentary film; and

16 WHEREAS, the project is seeking support from volunteers  
17 and contributors and is seeking donations of World War II  
18 memorabilia; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico has a rich history of World War II  
20 experiences and much to contribute to the project;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
22 OF NEW MEXICO that the United States Latino and Latina World  
23 War II oral history project be supported; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all New Mexicans be  
25 encouraged to participate in the project; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the United States Latino and Latina World War II oral history project.

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