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SENATE MEMORIAL 36

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

**RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CIVIL WAR BATTLES AT GLORIETA
PASS AND ENCOURAGING THE REMEMBRANCE OF THESE BATTLES.**

**WHEREAS, New Mexicans engaged in significant Civil War
battles culminating on March 26 and March 28, 1862 near
Glorieta pass; and**

**WHEREAS, the confederate army entered New Mexico from the
south at Las Cruces, winning a battle at Valverde on February
21, 1862; and**

**WHEREAS, the confederate army overtook Belen and
Albuquerque on March 2 and Santa Fe on March 10, 1862; and**

**WHEREAS, the confederate army moved the seat of government
from Santa Fe to Las Vegas after taking Santa Fe; and**

**WHEREAS, the union army, which included New Mexico troops
and the brave soldiers of the Colorado volunteers, defeated the**

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1 confederate forces in battle at Apache canyon, thirteen miles
2 from Santa Fe, on March 26, leaving thirty-two to seventy
3 confederate soldiers dead and capturing seventy-two confederate
4 soldiers; and

5 WHEREAS, only five union soldiers lost their lives in the
6 battle at Apache canyon; and

7 WHEREAS, the confederacy aimed to take the gold mines of
8 Colorado, the seaports and gold of California and all the land
9 between New Mexico and California in order to finance the
10 confederacy; and

11 WHEREAS, New Mexico forces for the union won a second
12 battle on March 28 at Glorieta, leaving twenty-seven
13 confederate soldiers dead; and

14 WHEREAS, the battle of Glorieta pass proved to be a
15 turning point in the Civil War by preventing acquisition of
16 gold for the confederate cause or any acquisitions further
17 west; and

18 WHEREAS, the battle of Glorieta pass has not received
19 adequate recognition for its historical significance; and

20 WHEREAS, the descendants of Civil War soldiers owe a debt
21 of gratitude for their sacrifices and bravery;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
23 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico state flag in Santa Fe be
24 lowered to half-mast on March 10 and raised in Las Vegas as a
25 reminder of the days when the seat of New Mexico government was

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1 moved to Las Vegas; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexicans be encouraged to
3 visit the battlefield and burial sites at Glorieta on March 28,
4 2005 at 1:30 p.m. to join in a memorial ceremony for those who
5 lost their lives at Glorieta pass; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
7 transmitted to the governor of Colorado and the mayors of Las
8 Vegas and Santa Fe.

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