

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 11, 2019 "MILITARY AND VETERANS DAY" IN THE
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4 WHEREAS, the United States was founded on the belief
5 that Americans are guaranteed the inalienable rights of life,
6 liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and

7 WHEREAS, this freedom that Americans enjoy does not come
8 without a price; and

9 WHEREAS, this freedom is protected by those who have
10 served in the United States armed forces; and

11 WHEREAS, brave military men and women have sacrificed to
12 preserve and protect the American way of life from all
13 enemies, foreign and domestic; and

14 WHEREAS, throughout the history of New Mexico, military
15 service has been important to generations of residents; and

16 WHEREAS, during pre-statehood territorial days, farmers
17 and landowners helped the union army stop the spread of the
18 confederacy at the battle of Glorieta during this nation's
19 Civil War; and

20 WHEREAS, New Mexicans have readily answered the nation's
21 call to arms – from World War I through the most recent wars
22 in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

23 WHEREAS, New Mexico has consistently ranked among the
24 states with the highest per capita rates of service; and

25 WHEREAS, with five military bases within New Mexico's

1 borders today, eleven thousand active duty personnel, more
2 than five thousand reserve and national guard members and a
3 total of one hundred fifty-six thousand veterans, military
4 and veteran presence continues to be a vital part of the
5 fabric of New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, veterans have a major impact on New Mexico's
7 economy; and

8 WHEREAS, veterans account for one billion five hundred
9 million dollars (\$1,500,000,000) of benefits, services and
10 expenditures by the United States department of veterans
11 affairs in the state; and

12 WHEREAS, the average income of a veteran in New Mexico
13 is forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) a year, which is
14 seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) more than that of
15 non-veteran wage earners in the state; and

16 WHEREAS, there are twenty-five thousand veteran-owned
17 businesses in New Mexico, accounting for nearly six billion
18 five hundred million dollars (\$6,500,000,000) in sales; and

19 WHEREAS, in short, after they have served this country,
20 veterans continue to serve New Mexico's economy;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that March 11,
23 2019 be declared "Military and Veterans Day" in the house of
24 representatives to acknowledge and honor the service,
25 sacrifice and overall impact of the nation's armed forces

1 personnel and veterans in New Mexico as these men and women
2 have rendered the highest service any American can offer the
3 country; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor, the state adjutant general and
6 the secretary of veterans' services. _____

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