

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, THE CITY OF  
3 LAS CRUCES, THE NEW MEXICO VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION AND  
4 NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY TO COLLABORATE ON A PROPOSAL TO  
5 ESTABLISH A NEW MEXICO STATE VETERANS' MUSEUM IN LAS CRUCES.  
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7 WHEREAS, there are currently twenty-one museums in  
8 New Mexico that include military items and exhibits in their  
9 collections; and

10 WHEREAS, because those museums are scattered throughout the  
11 state and contain artifacts from different wars and campaigns, the  
12 contributions of New Mexico's veterans are not adequately  
13 represented; and

14 WHEREAS, New Mexico's military history is extensive, as it  
15 covers nearly five hundred years and includes the exploits of  
16 conquistadors, roughriders, code talkers, buffalo soldiers, Bataan  
17 death marchers and seven medal of honor recipients; and

18 WHEREAS, the city of Las Cruces, which is home to a  
19 significant population of veterans and which lies in close proximity  
20 to Fort Bliss, Biggs army field, White Sands missile range and  
21 Holloman air force base, is a logical choice for a New Mexico state  
22 veterans' museum; and

23 WHEREAS, Las Cruces is also home to New Mexico state  
24 university, which could contribute its resources to the  
25 consolidation of military artifacts that are now scattered  
throughout the state and could assist with the establishment of a  
New Mexico state veterans' museum; and

WHEREAS, the office of cultural affairs is the state agency

1 charged with oversight of state museums; and

2 WHEREAS, the New Mexico veterans' service commission is  
3 the state agency charged with oversight of veterans issues;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE  
5 OF NEW MEXICO that the office of cultural affairs, the city of Las  
6 Cruces, the New Mexico veterans' service commission and New  
7 Mexico state university be requested to collaborate on a proposal to  
8 establish a New Mexico state veterans' museum in Las Cruces and  
9 report the results of their efforts and their recommendations to the  
10 legislative finance committee no later than October 1, 2003; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 transmitted to the state cultural affairs officer, the mayor of the  
13 city of Las Cruces, the director of the New Mexico veterans'  
14 service commission and the president of New Mexico state  
15 university. \_\_\_\_\_

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