

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 18, 2016 "DANIEL D. FERNANDEZ MEMORIAL  
3 DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

4  
5 WHEREAS, New Mexicans recognize the sacrifices that New  
6 Mexico's military men and women gave of themselves during  
7 wartime to preserve the freedoms we have today; and

8 WHEREAS, Daniel D. Fernandez was a native New Mexican  
9 from Valencia county who served in the United States army  
10 during the early years of the Vietnam conflict; and

11 WHEREAS, on February 18, 1966, in Hau Nghia province,  
12 republic of Vietnam, Daniel threw himself on an exploding  
13 grenade while shielding four soldiers attending to a wounded  
14 officer nearby, thereby saving their lives at the sacrifice  
15 of his own; and

16 WHEREAS, Daniel was honored with the highest honor given  
17 a soldier for valor in wartime, the medal of honor, on April  
18 6, 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson; and

19 WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens, especially  
20 the young students of New Mexico just being introduced to  
21 Daniel's story, understand how his life, service and  
22 honorable sacrifice contributed to the rich and proud history  
23 of Valencia county and the state; and

24 WHEREAS, February 18, 2016 is the fiftieth anniversary  
25 of Daniel's death in Vietnam;

1           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
2 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 18,  
3 2016 be declared "Daniel D. Fernandez Memorial Day" in the  
4 house of representatives; and

5           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
6 transmitted to the national honor society at Valencia high  
7 school and to Daniel's surviving brother, Peter Fernandez of  
8 Los Lunas.

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