

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING MARCH 16, 2017 "MEDAL OF HONOR DAY" IN THE SENATE
3 AND HONORING NEW MEXICO HEROES.

4
5 WHEREAS, New Mexicans recognize the sacrifices that
6 military men and women make to preserve the freedoms that
7 individuals have today; and

8 WHEREAS, in honor of those sacrifices, the medal of
9 honor was created during the American Civil War as the
10 highest military decoration presented by the United States
11 government to a member of the armed forces; and

12 WHEREAS, to qualify for the medal of honor, the
13 recipient must have engaged in distinguished actions at the
14 risk of the recipient's own life, above and beyond the call
15 of duty, against an enemy of the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, recipients of the medal of honor are
17 categorized by the state in which they enlisted or served;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico is credited with nine medal of honor
20 recipients; and

21 WHEREAS, April 6, 2017 is the fiftieth anniversary of
22 United States army Specialist Fourth Class
23 Daniel D. Fernandez being awarded the medal of honor
24 posthumously on April 6, 1967 by President Lyndon B. Johnson;
25 and

1 WHEREAS, Specialist Fernandez was a native New Mexican
2 from Valencia county who served in the United States army;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, on February 18, 1966, in Hau Nghia province,
5 Republic of Vietnam, Specialist Fernandez showed great valor
6 when he threw himself on an exploding grenade while shielding
7 four soldiers attending to a wounded officer nearby, thereby
8 saving their lives at the sacrifice of his own; and

9 WHEREAS, United States army Staff Sergeant
10 Leroy A. Petry, a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, received
11 the medal of honor on July 12, 2011 for his courageous
12 actions in Afghanistan during the war on terror; and

13 WHEREAS, United States army Staff Sergeant
14 Franklin D. Miller of Albuquerque, New Mexico, saw action
15 during the Vietnam War and received the medal of honor on
16 June 15, 1971; and

17 WHEREAS, United States army Corporal Hiroshi Miyamura, a
18 Gallup native, saw action during the Korean War and received
19 the medal of honor on November 4, 1953; and

20 WHEREAS, United States army Captain Robert S. Scott
21 enlisted in Santa Fe, New Mexico, during World War II and was
22 recognized for his actions on Okinawa, Japan, and received
23 the medal of honor on October 14, 1944; and

24 WHEREAS, United States army Private First Class
25 Alejandro R. Ruiz, who was born in Loving, New Mexico,

1 received the medal of honor on June 14, 1946 for his heroic
2 conduct during World War II; and

3 WHEREAS, United States marine Lieutenant
4 Alexander Bonnyman, Jr., was awarded the medal of honor on
5 October 28, 1946 for his valor during World War II; and

6 WHEREAS, during the Indian campaigns, cavalry Private
7 Eben Stanley was awarded the medal of honor for his gallantry
8 in action in Arizona on March 25 and March 27, 1873, and
9 cavalry First Sergeant Francis Oliver received the medal of
10 honor for his gallantry in battle on October 20, 1869; and

11 WHEREAS, the following seven medal of honor recipients
12 were born in New Mexico but either moved to, or enlisted in
13 the military service from, another state, to which their
14 award was credited: United States army Private
15 Joe P. Martinez; United States army Private
16 Harold H. Moon, Jr.; United States army Private First Class
17 Jose F. Valdez; United States army air forces Brigadier
18 General Kenneth N. Walker; United States army Staff Sergeant
19 Delbert O. Jennings; United States army Sergeant First Class
20 Louis R. Rocco; and United States marine Lance Corporal
21 Kenneth L. Worley; and

22 WHEREAS, it is incumbent on New Mexicans of all ages to
23 recognize how the life, service and honorable sacrifices of
24 these bravest of men contribute to the rich and proud history
25 of New Mexico;

