

1 A MEMORIAL

2 HONORING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF THOMAS HILL AND KATHLEEN
3 "KATIE" POTTER IN THE AZTEC HIGH SCHOOL SHOOTINGS.

4
5 WHEREAS, on December 7, 2017, a disturbed shooter
6 entered Aztec high school and took the lives of students
7 Francisco "Paco" Fernandez and Casey Jordan Marquez before
8 fatally shooting himself; and

9 WHEREAS, the death toll would have been much higher if
10 not for the bravery, courage and quick response of many
11 people; and

12 WHEREAS, Thomas Hill and Kathleen "Katie" Potter were at
13 the forefront of responders; and

14 WHEREAS, after encountering the shooter, custodian
15 Thomas Hill sent out a radio alert of an active shooter to
16 administrators, teachers and students so that the school
17 could quickly go into lockdown; and

18 WHEREAS, substitute teacher Kathleen "Katie" Potter
19 reacted quickly to the lockdown warning, gathering her
20 seventeen students in a small office next to the computer
21 lab, pushing a sofa against the door as a barricade and
22 directing her students to get down on the floor; and

23 WHEREAS, the shooter entered the computer lab and began
24 firing into the walls, but thanks to Katie Potter taking the
25 school's active-shooter drills seriously, no one was hit; and

1 WHEREAS, both Thomas Hill and Katie Potter say they are
2 not heroes, but their actions prove otherwise; and

3 WHEREAS, Aztec high school students and staff members
4 also welcomed first responders back to the school on January
5 12, 2018 to pay tribute to their bravery; and

6 WHEREAS, student body leaders recognized police
7 officers, law enforcement agents, firefighters, emergency
8 medical technicians, 911 dispatchers, red cross volunteers
9 and school and district staff; and

10 WHEREAS, Craig Daugherty, San Juan county's fire chief,
11 presented Thomas Hill, who has been a volunteer firefighter
12 for twenty years, with a medal of valor for prompting a
13 lockdown after the shooting began;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the bravery
16 and heroic actions of Thomas Hill and Kathleen "Katie" Potter
17 in the Aztec high school shootings be recognized; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to Thomas Hill and Kathleen "Katie" Potter. _____

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