

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  
13 at 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  
5 January 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 SENATE OF THE  
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the bravery and heroic actions of  
16 Thomas Hill and Kathleen "Katie" Potter in the Aztec high  
17 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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