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A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING NEW MEXICO PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico has always supported its military
veteran population; and

WHEREAS, the purple heart medal is the oldest military
decoration in present use and was initially created as the
badge of military merit by General George Washington in 1782;
and

WHEREAS, the purple heart medal was the first American
service award or decoration made available to the common
soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United
States armed forces who have been wounded or made the
ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the
United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the military order of the purple
heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among combat-
wounded veteran members and their families, promote
patriotism, support legislative initiatives and, most
importantly, ensure that purple heart recipients are never
forgotten; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two thousand five hundred to three
thousand New Mexicans have earned the purple heart medal; and

WHEREAS, the sacrifices that New Mexico purple heart

1 recipients have made in defending residents' freedoms are
2 acknowledged and appreciated; and

3 WHEREAS, it is important that purple heart recipients be
4 acknowledged for their courage and shown the honor and
5 support they earned;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico be
8 declared a purple heart state and that purple heart
9 recipients be honored and recognized for their service and
10 sacrifice for the state and the United States; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
12 transmitted to the secretary of veterans' services and the
13 department of New Mexico military order of the purple heart.

HM 82
Page 2

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