

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO  
CONSIDER LOCATING THE HOMELAND DEFENSE COMMAND AT KIRTLAND  
AIR FORCE BASE IN ALBUQUERQUE.

WHEREAS, the nation's military assets are organized  
under a unified combatant command system that allows for the  
simultaneous and efficient deployment and operation of units  
from each of the military branches; and

WHEREAS, the department of defense currently operates  
at least nine unified combatant commands, including  
geographically based commands and operationally based  
commands; and

WHEREAS, the number of unified combatant commands is  
not fixed by law or regulation and may vary from time to  
time, and the United States secretary of defense is  
considering creating a homeland defense command in the wake  
of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a homeland defense command is  
a meritorious idea that would enhance the security of the  
United States and protect its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Kirtland air force base in Albuquerque, New  
Mexico, is uniquely suited to serve as the headquarters for  
the homeland defense command, given its commercial airport  
and military air base infrastructure; its proximity to  
Sandia

national laboratories, Los Alamos national laboratory, the New Mexico institute of mining and technology and White Sands missile range; and the amenities offered by a major metropolitan area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States secretary of defense be requested to consider establishing the headquarters for the homeland defense command at Kirtland air force base in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the United States secretary of defense, the United States secretary of energy, the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation and the Kirtland partnership committee. \_\_\_\_\_