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**SENATE MEMORIAL 15**

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005**

**INTRODUCED BY**

**Clinton D. Harden**

**A MEMORIAL**

**REQUESTING THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION OF THE STATE OF  
NEW MEXICO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO SUPPORTING AND PASSING THE  
FEDERAL DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL.**

**WHEREAS, the security of the nation and people is the  
first and foremost obligation of the United States federal  
government; and**

**WHEREAS, the men and women of the United States armed  
forces now serving in the army, navy, air force, marine corps,  
coast guard, merchant marines, national guard and reserves have  
shown great courage and self-sacrifice and deserve to be  
equipped with the best weapons and resources to protect the  
nation; and**

**WHEREAS, in past years politicians have delayed passing  
the defense appropriations bill until late in the budget year**

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1 with the result that the bill was misused as a dumping ground  
2 for pork barrel spending and as a political hostage to pork  
3 barrel spending in other appropriations bills; and

4 WHEREAS, in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September  
5 11, 2001 on America, President George W. Bush asked that the  
6 congress of the United States pass the defense appropriations  
7 bill before passing other spending bills; and

8 WHEREAS, congress acted responsibly in the 2002, 2003 and  
9 2004 budgets when it passed the defense appropriations bill  
10 first, thereby protecting the men and women in the armed forces  
11 from becoming pawns for politicians' spending maneuvers;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
13 OF NEW MEXICO that the state's congressional delegation be  
14 requested to support passage of the defense appropriations bill  
15 before passing other spending bills; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to members of the New Mexico congressional  
18 delegation.

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