

1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 URGING CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND MEDICAL CARE AND AID AND  
3 ATTENDANT CARE SERVICES FOR HONEY SUE NEWBY AND THE OTHER  
4 LEVEL THREE SPINA BIFIDA CHILDREN OF PARENTS WHO SERVED IN  
5 VIETNAM AND WHO ARE TOTALLY DISABLED.

6  
7 WHEREAS, the federal department of veterans affairs  
8 acknowledges that one thousand two hundred children of  
9 Vietnam war veterans have some degree of disability resulting  
10 from their birth parents' exposure to agent orange during  
11 military service in the Vietnam war; and

12 WHEREAS, approximately two hundred of these children of  
13 war veterans are designated as level three spina bifida  
14 children, who are considered to be totally disabled; and

15 WHEREAS, these children, designated as totally disabled  
16 as a result of their birth parents' exposure to agent orange  
17 during military service in Vietnam, are in a situation that  
18 is indistinguishable from that of any one hundred percent  
19 service-connected disabled veteran who is totally disabled as  
20 the result of military service; and

21 WHEREAS, these two hundred level three spina bifida  
22 children of Vietnam war veterans are not treated equally with  
23 the disabled military veterans as regards compensatory  
24 medical care and aid and attendant care; and

25 WHEREAS, the financial cost for families of these

1 children can be crippling, and many proud American military  
2 veterans and their families must depend on welfare or charity  
3 to provide the vital medical care and attendant care their  
4 children need; and

5 WHEREAS, at least one of these children, Honey Sue  
6 Newby, whose birth father served three tours as a marine  
7 infantryman in Vietnam, resides in New Mexico; and

8 WHEREAS, the legislature seeks to honor and encourage  
9 fair treatment of all persons who have made personal  
10 sacrifices in the military defense of our nation;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it urge the United States congress  
13 to provide full medical care and attendant care to Honey Sue  
14 Newby and the other level three spina bifida children who are  
15 totally disabled as a result of their birth parents' military  
16 service in Vietnam; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico congressional  
18 delegation be requested to work vigorously for adequate  
19 funding to provide full medical care and aid and attendant  
20 care to all level three spina bifida children who are totally  
21 disabled because of the effects of agent orange used in  
22 Vietnam; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
24 transmitted to each member of the congressional delegation,  
25 the chief clerks of the United States house of representatives

1 and the United States senate and the United States department  
2 of veterans affairs. \_\_\_\_\_

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