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HOUSE MEMORIAL 20

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020**

INTRODUCED BY

Harry Garcia and Rodolpho "Rudy" S. Martinez and  
Debra M. Sariñana

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO NAME A BRIDGE  
ON INTERSTATE 40, EXIT 131, IN TO'HAJIILEE, AFTER PRIVATE FIRST  
CLASS RAYMOND PLATERO.

WHEREAS, requests for the designation or dedication by  
name of any department of transportation bridge are submitted  
to the state transportation commission for approval; and

WHEREAS, a requested designation by name is intended as a  
memorial to an event, a person or persons of historical  
significance or intended as an honor to a person or persons of  
national esteem; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Platero earned the rank of private first  
class, E-3, and served in the United States army with company  
D, third battalion, one hundred eighty-seventh infantry, one  
hundred first airborne division; and

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1           WHEREAS, during the Vietnam conflict, Private First Class  
2 Platero was killed in action on January 26, 1970; and

3           WHEREAS, Private First Class Platero received the  
4 following military service awards: purple heart, bronze star  
5 medal, air medal, army commendation medal, national defense  
6 service medal, Vietnam service medal with three bronze service  
7 stars, republic of Vietnam campaign ribbon with device, good  
8 conduct medal, combat infantry badge, sharpshooter badge with  
9 automatic rifle bar and marksman badge with rifle bar; and

10           WHEREAS, Private First Class Platero was of Navajo  
11 descent; and

12           WHEREAS, the To'Hajiilee Navajo chapter of the To'Hajiilee  
13 Navajo veteran's organization passed a motion during a 2019  
14 chapter veteran's organizational meeting to support the  
15 dedication of a bridge on interstate 40, exit 131, to honor  
16 Private First Class Platero, who served and gave the ultimate  
17 sacrifice for his country; and

18           WHEREAS, a fitting honor to recognize Private First Class  
19 Platero for his dedication, service and ultimate sacrifice for  
20 his country would be to have a bridge named after him;

21           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state  
23 transportation commission be requested to name a bridge located  
24 on interstate 40, exit 131, in To'Hajiilee, after Private First  
25 Class Raymond Platero; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the state transportation commission and the commander of the To'Hajiilee Navajo veteran's organization.