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SENATE MEMORIAL 38

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2012

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Jane M. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING ALL CEMETERIES TO FLY THE VETERANS REMEMBERED FLAG.

WHEREAS, the American legion mandates that all veterans be treated with honor and respect in death as well as in life; and

WHEREAS, national and state veterans cemeteries honor only twelve percent of veterans in their final resting place; and

WHEREAS, that leaves more than eighty percent of veterans interred in private locations throughout the country without recognition; and

WHEREAS, the veterans remembered flag flying below the American flag at the entrance to these private cemeteries would give long-deserved recognition of the presence of veterans interred in such cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, displaying of a veterans remembered flag at such cemeteries will allow public awareness and enable the public to

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1 pay their respects on appropriate holidays to these veterans;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, there are flags for all branches of the armed
4 services, there is a flag for prisoners of war and those
5 missing in action, but there is no flag to honor the millions
6 of former military personnel who have served the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, a flag is a symbol of recognition for a group or
8 an ideal, and veterans compose a group, certainly represent an
9 ideal and surely deserve their own symbol; and

10 WHEREAS, it is estimated that twenty million four hundred
11 thousand veterans, affiliated and unaffiliated with veterans'
12 organizations, have served in the nation's military and
13 comprise a significant portion of the country's population; and

14 WHEREAS, a veterans remembered flag would memorialize and
15 honor all past, present and future veterans and provide an
16 enduring symbol to support tomorrow's veterans today; and

17 WHEREAS, the American legion, department of California,
18 assembled in the eighty-seventh annual convention in 2005 duly
19 adopted a resolution calling for approval on the national level
20 of a "veterans remembered flag"; and

21 WHEREAS, the assembly and the senate of the state of
22 California jointly adopted a veterans remembered flag at the
23 assembly on May 4, 2006 and at the senate on June 1, 2006; and

24 WHEREAS, other states and the United States Navy memorial
25 in Washington, D.C., have approved of a veterans remembered

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1 flag;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
3 OF NEW MEXICO that it request that all cemeteries fly the
4 veterans remembered flag of the American legion; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
6 transmitted to the secretary of veterans' services.

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