

The Legislature  
of the  
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4

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Introduced by  
REPRESENTATIVE JIM R. TRUJILLO



1 A JOINT MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SEEK  
3 PASSAGE OF A CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNITED  
4 STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ISSUE A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP HONORING  
5 THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF GLORIETA  
6 PASS IN NEW MEXICO AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE  
7 BATTLE OF GLORIETA PASS.  
8

9 WHEREAS, in January 1862, confederate General Henry  
10 Hopkins Sibley, with a brigade of two thousand six hundred  
11 Texans, invaded the territory of New Mexico with the intention  
12 of claiming the territory and the west for the confederacy;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the volunteers of the Texas confederate forces  
15 were victorious in defeating the union forces at the battle of  
16 Valverde on February 21, 1862, and shortly afterwards, on  
17 February 25, 1862, they captured Socorro, and on March 7,  
18 1862, Albuquerque was captured; and

19 WHEREAS, the confederate forces captured Santa Fe on  
20 March 10, 1862, the capital having been moved earlier by the  
21 New Mexico territorial governor, the honorable Henry Connelly,  
22 to Las Vegas, New Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, following these battlefield successes, the  
24 Texas confederate forces planned to conquer Fort Union and  
25 then march to Colorado to take over the mines located there;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, from there, the forces intended to form an  
3 alliance with the Mormons and together take over the gold  
4 fields of California, which would have provided much needed  
5 capital for the confederacy; and

6 WHEREAS, the conquest of California would have  
7 additionally provided two sorely needed ports, free of union  
8 blockades; and

9 WHEREAS, the fulfillment of their plans would have  
10 severed the western territories from the Union and  
11 strengthened the position of the confederacy; and

12 WHEREAS, they next planned to take over the Mexican  
13 states of lower California, Sonora and Chihuahua, which had  
14 the potential to gain much needed recognition by foreign  
15 countries; and

16 WHEREAS, the Texas confederate forces were met in a  
17 skirmish and fought two battles with the union forces at  
18 Glorieta Pass on March 26 to 28, 1862; and

19 WHEREAS, even though the confederate forces were  
20 victorious in these two battles, they were forced to abandon  
21 their dream of taking over Fort Union and conquering the west  
22 when their supply of sixty to eighty wagons, loaded with  
23 weapons, medical supplies, food and blankets, was burned and  
24 four hundred mules and horses were captured by a contingent of  
25 United States regular army forces from Fort Union and

1 volunteers from Colorado and New Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, after this tremendous loss, the confederate  
3 Texans had no other choice but to abandon General Sibley's  
4 dream and retreat back to Santa Fe, then to Albuquerque and  
5 eventually out of New Mexico and back to Texas; and

6 WHEREAS, this turning point in the confederate campaign  
7 in New Mexico, the "battle of Glorieta pass", is referred to  
8 by some historians as "the Gettysburg of the west"; and

9 WHEREAS, although the loss of men killed, wounded or  
10 missing in the Civil War battles fought in New Mexico may seem  
11 insignificant compared to the carnage of the Civil War battles  
12 that were fought in the east and south, the importance and  
13 significance of this battle cannot be overstated, as the  
14 ultimate outcome helped hold the union together and assured  
15 its survival in what we now know as the United States of  
16 America;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
18 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico congressional  
19 delegation be requested to introduce a congressional  
20 resolution requesting the United States postal service to  
21 issue a commemorative stamp honoring the sesquicentennial  
22 anniversary of the battle of Glorieta pass in New Mexico and  
23 recognizing the importance of the battle of Glorieta pass; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the president of the United States, the speaker

1 of the United States house of representatives, the president  
2 of the United States senate, the members of the New Mexico  
3 congressional delegation, the secretary of the United States  
4 department of the interior, the postmaster general of the  
5 United States postal service and the nonprofit organization,  
6 the friends of the Pecos national historical park.

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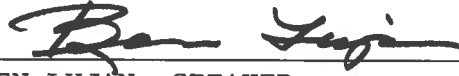
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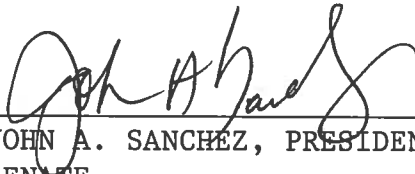
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BEN LUJAN, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



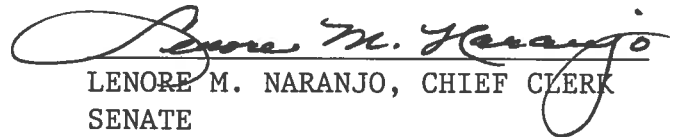
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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SENATE



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LENORE M. NARANJO, CHIEF CLERK  
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