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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-__

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Signe I. Lindell
Councilor Roman “Tiger” Abeyta
Councilor Chris Rivera

A RESOLUTION

**IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL VETERAN CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION’S
VETERANS LEGACY PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, the National Cemetery Administration established the Veterans Legacy Program on Memorial Day, 2016, as the Administration’s educational outreach initiative for the nation and to memorialize veterans in perpetuity in innovative and engaging ways; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Legacy Program commemorates the nation’s veterans through the discovery and sharing of their stories and encourages students and teachers at the elementary, middle, high school, and collegiate levels around the country to immerse themselves in the rich historical resources found within national cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Legacy Program is a model for local engagement in veterans’ research that can best serve each community; and

WHEREAS, each Veterans Legacy Program project is intended to create an experience of learning that builds a veteran’s legacy by sharing positive narratives that may be used to teach about both unique qualities of individual veterans and veterans as a community; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the National Cemetery Administration awards funding to colleges and
2 universities to create opportunities, in partnership with their local national cemetery, for faculty
3 members and students to research the histories of veterans interred in those cemeteries; and

4 **WHEREAS**, participants in the Veterans Legacy Program research veterans interred in
5 national cemeteries and develop educational tools that increase public awareness of the service
6 and sacrifice of veterans; and

7 **WHEREAS**, partners from across the country have created Veterans Legacy Program
8 products and events that reflect the unique impact of veterans on their local communities; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Veterans Legacy Program has facilitated the discovery of nearly one
10 thousand veterans' stories that have been researched and shared by fifty-five college professors;
11 two hundred college students, two hundred and sixty elementary, middle, and high school
12 teachers; and nine thousand elementary, middle, and high school students; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the next solicitation for the Veterans Legacy Program proposals will occur
14 in late 2020 and will provide an opportunity to share the stories of Native American and other
15 New Mexican veterans representing diverse cultural backgrounds; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Community College has established a partnership with
17 community leaders to respond to the National Cemetery Administration's next solicitation for
18 funding to launch a New Mexico Veteran Legacy Program that will serve residents statewide, and
19 help educate the country about New Mexico's long and distinguished military service to the
20 United States of America; and

21 **WHEREAS**, support for the Veterans Legacy Program follows the City's installation of
22 banners along Cerrillos Road between I-25 and Rodeo Road commemorating the lives of those
23 local veterans who are serving, have served, or been honorably discharged from the United States
24 military.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that recognition and support be given to the National Veteran Cemetery
2 Administration for the establishment of a New Mexico Veterans Legacy Program at the Santa Fe
3 Community College.

4 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2020.

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ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

9 ATTEST:

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12 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

13 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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16 ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/2020/Resolutions/Veterans Legacy Program Support*