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HOUSE MEMORIAL 110

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

Jim R. Trujillo

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL
MANUEL ANTONIO CHAVES.

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Antonio Chaves distinguished himself in service to his state and his country, and he is known as a hero of the battle of Glorieta Pass; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves lived through a significant era in the state's history, being born in 1818 during the Spanish colonial period, and he lived in New Mexico during the period of Mexican rule and during the time New Mexico was a territory of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves served honorably in the Mexican military before New Mexico was incorporated into the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1860, Manuel Antonio Chaves became a

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1 lieutenant colonel in the second New Mexico mounted volunteers
2 and fought for the union at the battle of Valverde Ford; and

3 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves fought bravely at the
4 battle of Glorieta Pass on March 26-28, 1862; and

5 WHEREAS, as the leader of the second New Mexico mounted
6 volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves was chosen to guide his
7 forces to a confederate supply train; and

8 WHEREAS, this leadership enabled the union soldiers and
9 the Colorado and New Mexico volunteers to destroy the
10 confederate supply train, which forced the retreat of the
11 confederate forces to Texas and the end of confederate plans to
12 annex the New Mexico territory; and

13 WHEREAS, this victory became a turning point of the Civil
14 War and forever etched the battle of Glorieta Pass as the
15 "Gettysburg of the West"; and

16 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves spent his life after
17 the war as a rancher in the San Mateo mountains of New Mexico;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves and his beautiful wife,
20 Vicenta Labadie Chaves, were renowned for their generosity and
21 hospitality and their embrace of traditional southwestern
22 values; and

23 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Chaves and Vicenta were buried
24 in the chapel next to their hacienda before having their
25 resting place moved to a local cemetery; and

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