

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

March 19, 2024

**Proclaiming March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day**

Every year, March 25<sup>th</sup> is designated as the day to honor the bravest, most courageous, and honorable service people in the United States military. Receiving a Medal of Honor (MoH) is rare, given to those who have gone above and beyond the call of their duty, and only Congress can award these specific medals<sup>1</sup>. It is also the day that recipients of the MoHs lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery as each of the “unknown” soldiers are considered, respected, and honored as MoH recipients.<sup>2</sup>

In March of 1863, Congress made the MoH a “permanent decoration”<sup>3</sup> and was allowed to be given to Army officers. The first MoH was given to six United States Army volunteers in that same year on March 25.<sup>4</sup> To date, 3,536 Medals of Honors have been

<sup>1</sup> <https://veteran.com/medal-of-honor-day/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cmoHS.org/medal/medal-of-honor-day-information>

<sup>3</sup> <https://nationaltoday.com/national-medal-honor-day/#:~:text=U.S.&text=For%20National%20Medal%20of%20Honor,United%20States%20military%20have%20displayed.>

<sup>4</sup> Id.

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

MITCHELL \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

HORVATH \_\_\_\_\_

awarded to 3,517 recipients.<sup>5</sup>

It is encouraged that we commemorate National Medal of Honor Day by:

- “Flyi[ng] the United States flag at a residence or business
- ‘Adopt[ing]’ the gravesite of an MoH recipient
- Attend[ing] a ‘retreat’ ceremony honoring the fallen with ‘Taps’ and the lowering of the flag
- Attend[ing] ceremonies honoring living MoH recipients
- Donat[ing] or support[ing] MoH societies, veteran service organizations, and veteran-oriented museums.”<sup>6</sup>

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors proclaim March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day.

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HLS:el/ach

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<sup>6</sup> <https://veteran.com/medal-of-honor-day/>