

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

March 19, 2024

Proclaiming March 25, 2024 as National Medal of Honor Day

Every year, March 25th 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 medals¹. 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.²

In March of 1863, Congress made the MoH a “permanent decoration”³ 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 25.⁴ To date, 3,536 Medals of Honors have been

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

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

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

⁴ Id.

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awarded to 3,517 recipients.⁵

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.”⁶

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

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