(R-2006-405)

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RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 300985 ADOPTED ON OCT 3 1 2005

WHEREAS, San Diego has a proud and storied military history and tradition and is home to over 100,000 active duty military personnel and 280,000 veterans; and

WHEREAS, all Americans who served their country deserve honor and respect in life and dignity in death; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Services Corporation International (SCI) created the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program; and

WHEREAS, this program furnishes burials with military honors to former members of the armed services who die without resources or family members to take care of their final arrangements; and

WHEREAS, if it were not for this program, these veterans would probably be interred in a pauper's grave; and

WHEREAS, the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program is organized and managed by veterans, for fellow veterans with a special need who receive a dignified graveside service with full military honors at no cost; and

WHEREAS, since the program's inception in 2001, there have been 109 burials in San Diego and, as of September 2005, 363 total burials in 20 other cities throughout the United States with this same program; and

WHEREAS, the Dignity Memorial Veterans Burial Program honors our heroes who answered the call to duty; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby commend all those involved in the success of the Dignity Memorial Veterans Burial Program for providing such valued services in our community and country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that October 31, 2005, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "DIGNITY MEMORIAL HOMELESS VETERANS BURIAL PROGRAM DAY" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By $\overline{\overline{C}}$

Stephanie Rahlfs

Deputy City Attorney

SR:jb

10/20/2005

Or.Dept:Deputy Mayor Atkins

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