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2 An act relating to military awards and
3 decorations; authorizing the Governor to
4 present the Governor's Medal of Merit to a
5 resident of this state who has rendered
6 exceptional meritorious service or who is
7 serving, or who has been honorably discharged
8 from service, in the United States Armed
9 Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the
10 United States Reserve Forces and, while on
11 active duty, rendered exceptional meritorious
12 service; providing a definition; providing for
13 the medal to be presented to a designated
14 representative in the event of the death of a
15 chosen recipient; limiting presentation to one
16 medal per individual; authorizing the Executive
17 Office of the Governor to adopt rules; amending
18 s. 250.10, F.S.; authorizing the Adjutant
19 General to issue military decorations and
20 awards; providing an effective date.

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22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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24 Section 1. Governor's Medal of Merit.--
25 (1) The Governor may present, in the name of the State
26 of Florida, a medal to be known as the "Governor's Medal of
27 Merit," which shall bear a suitable inscription and ribbon of
28 appropriate design, to:
29 (a) Any legal resident of this state who has rendered
30 exceptional meritorious service to the citizens of this state;
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1 (b) Any legal resident of this state who is serving
2 under honorable conditions on active duty as a member of the
3 United States Armed Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the
4 United States Reserve Forces and has rendered exceptional
5 meritorious service to the citizens of this state while on
6 active duty; or

7 (c) Any legal resident of this state who has been
8 honorably discharged from active duty as a member of the
9 United States Armed Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the
10 United States Reserve Forces and, while on active duty,
11 rendered exceptional meritorious service to the citizens of
12 this state.

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14 As used in this subsection, the term "exceptional meritorious
15 service" means acts of bravery above and beyond the level of
16 duty normally required by that person's respective military or
17 civilian position.

18 (2)(a) In the event of the death of an individual who
19 has been chosen to receive the Governor's Medal of Merit, the
20 medal shall be presented to a designated representative of the
21 chosen recipient.

22 (b) The Governor's Medal of Merit may only be
23 presented to an individual once.

24 (3) The Executive Office of the Governor, in
25 consultation with the Adjutant General and other appropriate
26 entities, may adopt rules pursuant to sections 120.536(1) and
27 120.54, Florida Statutes, to implement this section.

28 Section 2. Paragraph (n) is added to subsection (2) of
29 section 250.10, Florida Statutes, to read:

30 250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant
31 General.--

1 (2) The Adjutant General shall:
2 (n) Issue decorations and awards pursuant to military
3 regulations and instructions.

4 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
5 law.

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