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A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to military awards and decorations;  
 authorizing the Governor to present the Governor's Medal  
 of Merit to a resident of the state who has rendered  
 exceptional meritorious service to the citizens of the  
 state or who is serving, or who has been honorably  
 discharged from service, in the United States Armed  
 Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the United States  
 Reserve Forces and, while on active duty, rendered  
 exceptional meritorious service to the citizens of the  
 state; providing a definition; providing for the medal to  
 be presented to a designated representative in the event  
 of the death of a chosen recipient; authorizing the  
 Governor to adopt rules for the presentation and  
 distribution of the Governor's Medal of Merit; amending s.  
 250.10, F.S.; authorizing the Adjutant General to issue  
 military decorations and awards; providing an effective  
 date.

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

Section 1. Governor's Medal of Merit.--

(1) The Governor may present, in the name of the State of  
 Florida, a medal to be known as the "Governor's Medal of Merit,"  
 which shall bear a suitable inscription and ribbon of  
 appropriate design, to:

(a) Any legal resident of the state who has rendered  
 exceptional meritorious service to the citizens of the state;

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29 (b) Any legal resident of the state who is serving under  
 30 honorable conditions on active duty as a member of the United  
 31 States Armed Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the United  
 32 States Reserve Forces and has rendered exceptional meritorious  
 33 service to the citizens of the state while on active duty; or

34 (c) Any legal resident of the state who has been honorably  
 35 discharged from active duty as a member of the United States  
 36 Armed Forces, the Florida National Guard, or the United States  
 37 Reserve Forces and, while on active duty, rendered exceptional  
 38 meritorious service to the citizens of the state.

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 40 As used in this subsection, the term "exceptional meritorious  
 41 service" means an act or acts of bravery above and beyond the  
 42 level of duty normally required by that person's respective  
 43 military or civilian position.

44 (2) In the event of the death of an individual who has  
 45 been chosen to receive the Governor's Medal of Merit, the medal  
 46 shall be presented to a designated representative of the chosen  
 47 recipient.

48 (3) The Governor, in consultation with the Adjutant  
 49 General and other appropriate entities, may adopt any rules  
 50 deemed necessary for the proper presentation and distribution of  
 51 the Governor's Medal of Merit. The medal may be presented to an  
 52 individual only once.

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

55 250.10 Appointment and duties of the Adjutant General.--

56 (2) The Adjutant General shall:

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57 | (n) Issue decorations and awards pursuant to military  
58 | regulations and instructions.

59 | Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.