

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) released the following statement to mark the celebration of Independence Day on the Fourth of July:

"America was founded on the fundamental principle of freedom. Generations of brave Americans have committed their lives to building our country and securing freedoms for our nation, even as the idea of that nation has changed, grown, and expanded over time.

"Making and remaking America is a project that we each inherit. Some chapters of our history show that we can step forward, like when we stormed the beaches at Normandy, passed landmark voting rights legislation, or revolutionized healthcare. Other chapters are more painful, from slavery to the forced relocations of Native Americans and the internment of Japanese-American citizens during World War II.

"For many, our current chapter is heavy with fear. Fear that you and your family may lose your healthcare, your freedoms, or even your right to stay in this country. But together, we can remake that fear into hope: Hope in the promise of our nation and one another.

"As we mark Independence Day, let's recommit to building a nation that includes, rather than excludes. A nation that takes care of its people and places. A nation that is hopeful, rather than fearful.

Let's recommit to the work of building America."