SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 863

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway Motorcycle Run, which is held in March of each year in tribute to the Vietnam veterans and their return home; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway Motorcycle Run, also known as The Welcome Home Run, was established in 2003 to honor Texas Vietnam War veterans and to give them the appropriate Welcome Home they deserved upon their return many years ago; and

WHEREAS, The motorcycle run traces the route of the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway, which is the portion of the United States Highway 83 located in Texas and extends from the Oklahoma state line at the top of the Texas Panhandle to Brownsville at the southern tip of the state; the riders cover the route over the course of several days; and

WHEREAS, When the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway Motorcycle Run began six years ago, there were five riders, including two Vietnam War veterans; as more people became aware of the event, the Welcome Home Run has grown, and the event averaged 80 motorcycles in 2009 with a high number of 106; and

WHEREAS, The veterans of the Vietnam War fought courageously in a foreign land at a time of extreme danger; regrettably, when they returned home after doing their duty for their country, many found that they were not respected nor was their service appreciated; and

WHEREAS, The annual Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway Motorcycle Run is an expression by its participants that Texas Vietnam War veterans do indeed deserve respect for their service and a fitting Welcome Home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby commend the participants in the Texas Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway Motorcycle Run for their annual tribute in remembrance of Vietnam War veterans and their return home; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 7, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate