

By: Rose

H.R. No. 157

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Marine Lance Corporal Jon Ratcliff has returned to
2 the United States after serving valiantly in the Iraqi campaign;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, During that conflict, Lance Corporal Ratcliff saw
5 action with the communications platoon of headquarters battery, 1st
6 Battalion, 11th Regiment, of the 1st Marine Division; advancing a
7 mile or two behind the frontline troops, he was charged with
8 relaying coordinates for artillery targets to Marines operating 155
9 mm howitzers; over the course of the three-week push to Baghdad, his
10 unit encountered one ambush and fortunately sustained only one
11 injury; and

12 WHEREAS, A two-year Marine veteran, Lance Corporal Ratcliff
13 joined the corps in 2001, several months before the terrorist
14 attacks of September 11; from his youth, this fine young man
15 anticipated following in the footsteps of his father and members of
16 three generations on his mother's side, all of whom served in the
17 military; he earned a diploma from Bowie High School in Austin and
18 worked with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department before his
19 enlistment; and

20 WHEREAS, Numerous friends and relatives welcomed Lance
21 Corporal Ratcliff back to the States with a joyous celebration in
22 his honor on July 19, 2003; the gathering also paid tribute to
23 coalition troops still stationed in Iraq and to those who lost their
24 lives in that conflict; and

1 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Ratcliff has demonstrated a resolute
2 commitment to duty, honor, and this country, and he has risked his
3 life to bring freedom and security to others; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Marine Lance
6 Corporal Jon Ratcliff for embodying the highest ideals of the armed
7 forces and extend to him sincere appreciation for his brave and
8 steadfast efforts; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Lance Corporal Ratcliff as an expression of high
11 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.