

By: Pena

H.R. No. 66

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The family and friends of Sergeant Christopher  
2 Ramirez of McAllen are mourning the loss of this beloved man in Iraq  
3 on April 14, 2004, at the age of 34; and

4           WHEREAS, Sergeant Ramirez, a member of the U.S. Army, was  
5 assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade,  
6 1st Infantry Division, and was also attached to the U.S. Marines;  
7 while serving his third tour of duty in Iraq, he sustained mortal  
8 injuries during combat operations in Al Anbar Province, near  
9 Fallujah; and

10           WHEREAS, This patriotic Texan was born in Edinburg and lived  
11 there throughout most of his youth; he attended PSJA High School in  
12 Pharr and graduated in 1989; during his senior year in high school  
13 he joined the Army National Guard, and after receiving his diploma  
14 he joined the army; and

15           WHEREAS, Sergeant Ramirez saw combat in the first Gulf War  
16 and later served for a year in Kosovo; he was deployed for the  
17 second war with Iraq in September 2003, and although his term in the  
18 army was to have ended in January 2004, his tour was extended for  
19 another year; after a brief period of leave over Christmas,  
20 Sergeant Ramirez returned to Iraq to lead the platoon for which he  
21 felt such a deep sense of responsibility and comradeship; and

22           WHEREAS, Following the completion of his career in the army,  
23 Sergeant Ramirez was looking forward to building a home in the  
24 Valley and joining the U.S. Border Patrol; and

1           WHEREAS, One of 12 children, Christopher Ramirez loved  
2 spending time with his family, including his many nieces and  
3 nephews; he was also an enthusiastic baseball fan; and

4           WHEREAS, Sergeant Ramirez was posthumously awarded the  
5 Purple Heart and a Bronze Star; he was laid to rest with full  
6 military honors in Valley Memorial Gardens Cemetery in McAllen,  
7 where some 200 individuals gathered to pay homage to this valiant  
8 and cherished soldier; and

9           WHEREAS, Through his unfaltering devotion to duty, honor, and  
10 this country, Sergeant Ramirez embodied the highest ideals of the  
11 armed services, and the blessing of his life will be forever  
12 treasured by those who were privileged to share in his love and  
13 friendship; and

14           WHEREAS, Representative Aaron Peña has justly recognized the  
15 tremendous sacrifice of Sergeant Ramirez by passing this resolution  
16 in his behalf during the 4th Called Session of the 78th Texas  
17 Legislature; now, therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
19 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the  
20 life of Sergeant Christopher Ramirez and extend sincere sympathy to  
21 the members of his family: to his mother, Irene Ramirez; to his  
22 father and stepmother, Simon and Rosa Maria Ramirez; to his  
23 sisters, Sandra Yvonne Ramirez, Corrina Marie Rangel and her  
24 husband, Jesus Baez, and Denise Margaret Marshall and her husband,  
25 Ken; to his brothers, Eugene Darryl Ramirez, Rene Martin Ramirez,  
26 Sergio Omar Ramirez, Marco Alberto Ramirez, Anthony Ramirez and his  
27 wife, Dora, Ronald Stephen Ramirez and his wife, Cynthia, Simon

1 Ramirez, Jr., and his wife, Cynthia, and Miguel Angel Ramirez and  
2 his wife, Brenda; to his grandmother, Katherine Galindo; to his  
3 five nieces and five nephews; and to all his other relatives and  
4 many friends; and, be it further

5         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sergeant  
8 Christopher Ramirez.