

By: Corte

H.C.R. No. 261

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, This Memorial Day, the Texas Legislature and
2 citizens across America pause to honor those whose patriotism
3 called them to active duty in our nation's armed forces, and we also
4 join in solemn remembrance of those Texans who have been killed
5 during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

6 WHEREAS, The date we now know as Memorial Day was first
7 observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed with reverence on
8 the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers; exactly one century
9 later, the United States Congress declared the last Monday in May to
10 be Memorial Day; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout our nation's history, Texas servicemen
12 and servicewomen have distinguished themselves as individuals of
13 remarkable courage, dedication, and determination; today we are
14 proud to honor the men and women from our state, as well as those
15 posted to military bases within our state, who have left behind
16 their loved ones and the comfort and security of their homes to heed
17 our country's call to arms; during the Iraqi campaign, the members
18 of the 78th Legislature have felt deep sorrow as a number of our
19 fellow Texans have laid down their lives during the course of
20 serving our country; and

21 WHEREAS, To date the United States Department of Defense has
22 confirmed the deaths of more than 140 American soldiers and airmen
23 who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom, including at least two dozen
24 individuals with immediate ties to Texas; and

1 WHEREAS, Our state and our nation are fortunate to have men
2 and women whose love of their country leads them to military
3 service, yet the death of these heroic Texans is a sobering reminder
4 that armed conflict is not without great and terrible cost; their
5 deaths represent a tremendous loss to their families, friends,
6 fellow soldiers, and the State of Texas, and their sacrifice in the
7 meritorious service of our nation will not soon be forgotten; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby pay special tribute to the memory of those Texans who died
11 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and those who came before
12 them for their steadfast devotion to securing those freedoms all
13 Americans hold dear; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature also express its
15 heartfelt appreciation to all the brave men and women who have
16 served, and who currently serve, in the United States armed forces.