

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at  
2 the loss of First Sergeant Robert J. Dowdy of DeRidder, Louisiana,  
3 who died in the Iraqi campaign at the age of 38; and

4           WHEREAS, Sergeant Dowdy, a mechanical maintenance  
5 supervisor, was one of nine soldiers from the army's 507th  
6 Maintenance Company who lost their lives following an ambush in  
7 southern Iraq on March 23, 2003; he had volunteered for deployment  
8 to the Persian Gulf in the place of a fellow soldier and had shipped  
9 out from Fort Bliss the previous month; for his valiant service in  
10 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Sergeant Dowdy was posthumously awarded a  
11 Bronze Star and a Purple Heart; and

12           WHEREAS, This courageous soldier graduated in 1982 from South  
13 High School in Cleveland, Ohio; an 18-year army veteran, he was an  
14 able leader, one whose integrity and sound judgment naturally  
15 commanded the respect of others; he received promotion to first  
16 sergeant in Kuwait, shortly before moving into Iraq; and

17           WHEREAS, In his leisure time, Sergeant Dowdy was an  
18 accomplished runner who participated in numerous races in the El  
19 Paso area; and

20           WHEREAS, Though his work necessitated spending many hours  
21 away from his family, his profound care and support for his wife and  
22 daughter knew no limit; and

23           WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to their military  
24 personnel, whose brave and steadfast efforts have long secured this

1 nation's freedom; through his unwavering devotion to duty, honor,  
2 and his country, Sergeant Dowdy embodied the highest ideals of the  
3 United States armed forces, and the State of Texas and the nation  
4 now mourn the loss of a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice in  
5 behalf of his country, and whose life was a treasured blessing to  
6 all who were privileged to share his love and friendship; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of First Sergeant Robert  
10 J. Dowdy and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:  
11 to his wife, Kathleen; to his daughter, Kristy; to his parents,  
12 Irene Dowdy and Jack Dowdy, Sr.; to his siblings; and to the other  
13 relatives and many friends of this beloved American soldier; and,  
14 be it further

15         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of First  
18 Sergeant Robert J. Dowdy.

Chavez

H.R. No. 923

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 923 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 23, 2003.

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Chief Clerk of the House