

By: Chavez

H.R. No. 1453

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at
2 the loss of U.S. Army Specialist Lori Ann Piestewa of Tuba City,
3 Arizona, who died in the Iraqi campaign on March 23, 2003, at the
4 age of 23; and

5 WHEREAS, Specialist Piestewa, who was trained in automated
6 logistics, was one of nine soldiers from the army's 507th
7 Maintenance Company who lost their lives in an ambush in southern
8 Iraq; she was the first American servicewoman to be killed in that
9 conflict and the first Hopi woman and first Native American woman to
10 die in combat while serving in the United States armed forces; and

11 WHEREAS, This courageous soldier was descended from the Bear
12 clan, traditional leaders of the Hopi people; she herself showed an
13 aptitude for leadership at a young age, serving as commanding
14 officer of the Junior ROTC while a student at Tuba City High School;
15 when she joined the military two and a half years ago, she followed
16 in the footsteps of her father, who served in Vietnam, and a
17 grandfather who served in World War II; and

18 WHEREAS, A strong woman who took pride in her Hopi heritage,
19 Specialist Piestewa won affectionate respect for her
20 levelheadedness and for her wide smile and friendly nature; she was
21 an inspiring role model in the Hopi community and a loving,
22 nurturing mother to her four-year-old son and three-year-old
23 daughter; and

24 WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to their military

1 personnel, whose brave and steadfast efforts have long secured this
2 nation's treasured freedom; through her unwavering devotion to
3 duty, honor, and her country, Specialist Piestewa embodied the
4 highest ideals of the United States armed forces, and the State of
5 Texas and the nation now mourn the loss of a hero who made the
6 ultimate sacrifice in her country's behalf and whose life was a
7 blessing to all who were privileged to share her love and
8 friendship; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Army Specialist Lori
11 Ann Piestewa and extend deep sympathy to the members of her family:
12 to her parents, Percy and Terry Piestewa; to her son, Brandon, and
13 her daughter, Carla; and to the other relatives and many friends of
14 this beloved American soldier; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for the members of her family and that when the Texas House
17 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Army
18 Specialist Lori Ann Piestewa.