

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 907**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Sergeant Armando J. Ybarra for his courageous military service to his country; and

**WHEREAS**, Armando Ybarra enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1973 and saw service in Vietnam in 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, Some years later, Sergeant Ybarra was stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, with the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines; in May of 1983, his unit was deployed to Beirut, Lebanon, to provide peacekeeping support in the conflict between the Moslems and Christians; and

**WHEREAS**, The American soldiers, along with the French and Italian armed forces, initially provided a measure of stability to the country; and

**WHEREAS**, After diplomatic efforts failed to bring the two sides to a permanent peaceful accord, the Marines became the target of anti-American feelings; on October 23, 1983, the building that housed the Marines was destroyed by a terrorist driven truck laden with compressed gas-enhanced explosives; and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the explosion and collapse of the building, 220 Marines tragically lost their lives; Sergeant Ybarra was critically injured in the explosion, and he was awarded the Purple Heart; and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the severity of his injuries, Sergeant Ybarra's military career was cut short, and he retired in 1985 after 12 years of loyal service; and

**WHEREAS**, To honor the brave Marines who gave their lives in the service of their country, Sergeant Ybarra will attend the Beirut Memorial Service at Camp Lejeune on October 23, 2003, exactly 20 years after the tragedy occurred; and

**WHEREAS**, Sergeant Ybarra proudly and courageously served his country, and he indeed deserves legislative recognition for the many sacrifices he and his family have made for our nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to Sergeant Armando J. Ybarra and extend to him heartfelt gratitude for his outstanding service on behalf of his country; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 19, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate