

By: Quintanilla

H.R. No. 615

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Words cannot express the heartache felt at the loss  
2 of Sergeant Israel Devora Garcia of Clint, who died in Iraq on April  
3 1, 2006, at the age of 23; and

4           WHEREAS, Sergeant Devora Garcia was attached to Headquarters  
5 Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st  
6 Armored Division, based in Baumholder, Germany, and was serving his  
7 second tour of duty in Iraq; he was mortally wounded while  
8 conducting a dismounted patrol in Baghdad; and

9           WHEREAS, Born in Zacatecas, Mexico, Israel Devora Garcia came  
10 to the United States at the age of six and graduated in 2001 from  
11 Clint High School, where he was an honor student; although he  
12 completed all his required courses ahead of schedule and was told  
13 that he only needed to attend school part-time, he insisted on  
14 attending for the full day and in his spare time he tutored others;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, Drawn to the military at an early age, Sergeant  
17 Devora Garcia spent four years in the Junior Reserve Officers'  
18 Training Corps and demonstrated a notable capacity for leadership;  
19 in addition to winning numerous first- and second-place medals  
20 during weeklong camps at Fort Bliss, he attained the rank of major  
21 and served as executive officer of his unit; and

22           WHEREAS, Family and friends will forever remember Israel  
23 Devora Garcia for his cheerful nature, his great zest for life, and  
24 his strong desire to help others; for relaxation in his leisure

1 time, he enjoyed playing the guitar with friends, and he had a  
2 special passion for soccer; after fulfilling his commitment to the  
3 army, he planned to study law enforcement at Texas A&M University  
4 and then join the FBI or the border patrol; and

5 WHEREAS, Sergeant Devora Garcia earned United States  
6 citizenship shortly before he died, and he was officially  
7 proclaimed a citizen during a ceremony at the Clint Cemetery; and

8 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the dangerous nature of his  
9 mission, this courageous soldier performed his mission with  
10 dedication and professionalism; the awards and decorations  
11 conferred on him include the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart; and

12 WHEREAS, Through his unfaltering devotion to duty, honor, and  
13 this country, Sergeant Israel Devora Garcia embodied the highest  
14 ideals of the United States armed forces, and his valiant efforts  
15 and immeasurable sacrifice are deserving of honor by every  
16 American; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
18 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
19 Sergeant Israel Devora Garcia and extend sincere sympathy to the  
20 members of his family: to his mother and father, Frances and  
21 Lorenzo Sandoval; to his sister, Rosa E. Sandoval, and his  
22 brothers, Adrian Sandoval and Lorenzo Sandoval, Jr.; and to all who  
23 mourn the passing of this beloved young man; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
25 prepared for his family, and that when the Texas House of  
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sergeant  
27 Israel Devora Garcia.