

By: Keel

H.R. No. 1759

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A group of courageous Americans has returned from  
2 Iraq, and these dedicated individuals hold the respect and  
3 admiration of all who know them for their exemplary service to this  
4 country; and

5           WHEREAS, Members of the 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment,  
6 arrived home in March 2005 after serving seven months in support of  
7 Operation Iraqi Freedom; known as the "Texas Battalion," the unit  
8 is composed of more than 1,000 reserve Marines and sailors, with the  
9 battalion headquarters, A Company, Weapons Company, and a  
10 detachment of C Company based in Austin, B Company based in Bossier  
11 City, Louisiana, and C Company based in Corpus Christi, with a  
12 detachment based in Harlingen; and

13           WHEREAS, Stationed in the Al Anbar province, these valiant  
14 patriots participated in countless vehicle and foot mobile patrols  
15 in search of insurgents; B Company participated in action in  
16 Fallujah during November 2004, and in February 2005 the entire  
17 group conducted Operation River Blitz, which greatly hampered  
18 insurgency efforts throughout the Hit/Haiditha corridor; moreover,  
19 they spearheaded critical rebuilding efforts and played a vital  
20 role in securing the first-ever general elections held in Iraq on  
21 January 30, 2005; and

22           WHEREAS, Ten members of the battalion made the ultimate  
23 sacrifice in service to this country and the cause of freedom, and  
24 we extend our thoughts and prayers and deepest sympathies to all

1 those whose lives were touched by these heroic soldiers; and

2 WHEREAS, People of this nation owe a profound debt of  
3 gratitude to these and to all of the country's military personnel,  
4 for they are called on to bear great, often unimaginable, burdens,  
5 and they render service and sacrifice that is truly beyond measure;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Through their unfaltering devotion to duty, honor,  
8 and this nation, these brave Marines and sailors embody the highest  
9 ideals of the U.S. armed forces, and it is indeed a privilege to  
10 join in welcoming them home; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby commend the members of the 1st Battalion, 23rd  
13 Marine Regiment, for their service during Operation Iraqi Freedom  
14 and extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for the battalion as an expression of high regard by the  
18 Texas House of Representatives.