

By: Janek

S.C.R. No. 15

#### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, No structure or road in Texas commemorates the tens  
2 of thousands of U.S. military men and women from Texas who have been  
3 awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit, commonly  
4 known as the Purple Heart, for sacrifices made on the battlefield;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Similarly, Texas has no fitting tribute to the  
7 thousands of American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan who have  
8 received the Purple Heart for service to America in the current war  
9 against terrorism; and

10 WHEREAS, Specifically a combat decoration, the Purple Heart  
11 is awarded in the name of the president of the United States to  
12 members of the armed forces who are wounded in conflict with an  
13 enemy force or while held by an enemy force as a prisoner of war; and

14 WHEREAS, Established in 1782 during the Revolutionary War,  
15 the Purple Heart is also awarded posthumously to the next of kin of  
16 members of the armed forces who are killed or who die of a wound  
17 received in conflict with an enemy force; and

18 WHEREAS, Other states have named a state highway or bridge to  
19 memorialize members of the U.S. armed forces who have been awarded  
20 the Purple Heart; a bridge over Interstate Highway 59 in  
21 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, for example, is known as The Military  
22 Order of the Purple Heart Memorial Bridge; New Mexico has  
23 designated the entire length of Interstate 40 from the Texas state  
24 line to the Arizona state line as the Purple Heart Trail; and

1           WHEREAS, Designating a roadway or road structure in Texas  
2 would pay tribute to patriotic Americans who were wounded or killed  
3 in defense of our nation and encourage all Texans to learn about the  
4 history of the Purple Heart and to honor the recipients of this  
5 distinguished combat award; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas  
7 hereby request the Texas Department of Transportation to designate  
8 the new causeway bridge connecting Galveston Island and the Texas  
9 mainland as the Purple Heart Memorial Bridge; and, be it further

10          RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official  
11 copy of this resolution to the chair of the Texas Transportation  
12 Commission and to the executive director of the Texas Department of  
13 Transportation.