

1-1 By: Janek S.C.R. No. 15
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2005; March 21, 2005, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland
1-4 Security; April 27, 2005, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 27, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, No structure or road in Texas commemorates the tens
1-8 of thousands of United States military men and women from Texas who
1-9 have been awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit,
1-10 commonly known as the Purple Heart, for sacrifices made on the
1-11 battlefield; and

1-12 WHEREAS, Similarly, Texas has no fitting tribute to the
1-13 thousands of American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan who have
1-14 received the Purple Heart for service to America in the current war
1-15 against terrorism; and

1-16 WHEREAS, Specifically a combat decoration, the Purple Heart
1-17 is awarded in the name of the president of the United States to
1-18 members of the armed forces who are wounded in conflict with an
1-19 enemy force or while held by an enemy force as a prisoner of war; and

1-20 WHEREAS, Established in 1782 during the Revolutionary War,
1-21 the Purple Heart is also awarded posthumously to the next of kin of
1-22 members of the armed forces who are killed or who die of a wound
1-23 received in conflict with an enemy force; and

1-24 WHEREAS, Other states have named a state highway or bridge to
1-25 memorialize members of the United States armed forces who have been
1-26 awarded the Purple Heart; a bridge over Interstate Highway 59 in
1-27 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, for example, is known as The Military
1-28 Order of the Purple Heart Memorial Bridge; New Mexico has
1-29 designated the entire length of Interstate 40 from the Texas state
1-30 line to the Arizona state line as the Purple Heart Trail; and

1-31 WHEREAS, Designating a roadway or road structure in Texas
1-32 would pay tribute to patriotic Americans who were wounded or killed
1-33 in defense of our nation and encourage all Texans to learn about the
1-34 history of the Purple Heart and to honor the recipients of this
1-35 distinguished combat award; now, therefore, be it

1-36 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-37 hereby request the Texas Department of Transportation to designate
1-38 the new causeway bridge connecting Galveston Island and the Texas
1-39 mainland as the Purple Heart Memorial Bridge; and, be it further

1-40 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official
1-41 copy of this resolution to the chair of the Texas Transportation
1-42 Commission and to the executive director of the Texas Department of
1-43 Transportation.

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