SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 501

In Memory of Ray Rangel

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of San Antonio and Texas in mourning the loss of United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Ray Rangel, who died at the age of 29 on February 13, 2005, while serving his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Ray was born in San Antonio on September 23, 1975; he attended South San Antonio High School, where he played defensive back on the Bobcats' football team, and graduated in 1994; he enlisted in the United States Air Force in September of 1994; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Rangel, a highly decorated and well-trained firefighter, earned numerous commendations for his exemplary military service; he was deployed to Iraq in September, 2004, with the 7th Civil Engineering Squadron based at Dyess Air Force Base near Abilene; and

WHEREAS, A courageous, compassionate gentleman, he lost his own life while attempting to rescue other soldiers whose military vehicle had rolled into a canal; and

WHEREAS, Ray was well known for his thoughtfulness, kindness, and genuine concern for others; he loved his family and his country, and his last act was a heroic sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Ray Rangel was a devoted husband, father, son, and brother, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

S.R. No. 501

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas,

79th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the life of Staff Sergeant

Ray Rangel and extend sincere condolences to his bereaved family:

his wife, Selena; his sons, Justin, Jacob, and Gabriel; his

daughter, Lilliana; his mother, Cynthia Rangel; his father,

Federico Rangel; and his three sisters; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for members of his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Staff Sergeant Ray Rangel.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 30, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate