

By: Escobar

H.C.R. No. 118

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Lieutenant General Ricardo S. Sanchez has concluded  
2 an illustrious military career that saw him rise to the highest  
3 ranks of the United States Army and faithfully serve his country for  
4 more than 30 years; and

5 WHEREAS, With his retirement in November 2006, General  
6 Sanchez has settled in San Antonio, and it is a pleasure to welcome  
7 this esteemed commander home to the Lone Star State; and

8 WHEREAS, It was in the South Texas town of Rio Grande City  
9 that Ricardo Sanchez grew up, and the lessons he learned there about  
10 hard work and the value of education helped to shape his later  
11 military career; a graduate of Texas A&I University-Kingsville, he  
12 was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1973; over  
13 the following decades, he distinguished himself in a series of  
14 assignments and advanced steadily through the ranks; and

15 WHEREAS, A specialist in armored combat, this valiant officer  
16 commanded tank companies and battalions and ably completed a number  
17 of other senior-level assignments, with his duties taking him to  
18 various foreign countries, including Korea, Germany, and Panama;  
19 General Sanchez also honed his skills through studies at the Naval  
20 Postgraduate School, where he obtained his master's degree in  
21 operations research and systems analysis engineering, the Command  
22 and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College; and

23 WHEREAS, Following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, he  
24 led the 2nd Battalion of the 69th Armor Regiment into combat as part

1 of Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield; his  
2 battalion contributed to the coalition victory by spearheading the  
3 assault of the 24th Infantry Division into Iraq; and

4 WHEREAS, General Sanchez took charge of the 1st Armored  
5 Division in 2001 and supervised its deployment for Operation Iraqi  
6 Freedom in 2003; in June of that year, he was promoted to the rank of  
7 three-star or lieutenant general and assumed command of the Army's  
8 V Corps; this assignment placed him in charge of the Combined Joint  
9 Task Force in Iraq, and for the next year, Lieutenant General  
10 Sanchez helped direct the effort to restore and reconstruct Iraq's  
11 infrastructure while overseeing the country's security; and

12 WHEREAS, In establishing his remarkable record of service,  
13 Lieutenant General Sanchez received a long list of official  
14 commendations, and he may also reflect proudly on his  
15 groundbreaking role in the military and in American society as a  
16 whole; in his advance to the senior levels of command, he became the  
17 highest ranking officer of Latino descent in the U.S. Army; for his  
18 myriad achievements and for his steadfast dedication to the  
19 nation's security, Ricardo Sanchez is deserving of acclaim and  
20 gratitude; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
22 hereby pay tribute to Lieutenant General Ricardo S. Sanchez  
23 following his retirement from the U.S. Army and extend to him best  
24 wishes for happiness and success as a resident of the Lone Star  
25 State; and, be it further

26 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
27 prepared for Lieutenant General Sanchez as an expression of high

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1 regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.