

By: Martinez Fischer

H.R. No. 232

R E S O L U T I O N

1        WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Army Sergeant Roger  
2        P. Pena, Jr., of San Antonio suffered an immeasurable loss with the  
3        death of this beloved young man on June 14, 2006, at the age of 29;  
4        and

5        WHEREAS, Sergeant Pena joined the army in March 2004 and  
6        served as a combat medic with the 10th Sustainment Brigade, 10th  
7        Mountain Division; deployed to Afghanistan in February 2006, he was  
8        killed while bravely serving his country during combat operations;  
9        and

10       WHEREAS, Born on October 28, 1976, to Roger O. and Paulita  
11       Pena, Roger Pena became a skilled chess player as a child and went  
12       on to win first place among eighth graders at the Texas Junior State  
13       Championship; he graduated in 1995 from Harlandale High School,  
14       where he was a member of the football and soccer teams and served as  
15       an officer of the senior class; known for his dynamic leadership and  
16       natural charm, he was instrumental in developing the youth ministry  
17       at St. Leo's Church, leading more than 50 youth retreats during his  
18       time there; and

19       WHEREAS, Sergeant Pena met his wife, Marisol, while pursuing  
20       a degree in history at The University of Texas at Austin; the proud  
21       father of two sons, he planned to one day complete his studies and  
22       become a history teacher; and

23       WHEREAS, He carried out his military duties with strength and  
24       valor, and he received numerous commendations, including the Army

1 Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army  
2 Service Ribbon, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and

3 WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have men and  
4 women whose love of country leads them to military duty, and time  
5 can never diminish the profound debt that Americans owe to Sergeant  
6 Pena for the service he undertook and the sacrifice he rendered; and

7 WHEREAS, Roger Pena inspired countless others with his  
8 optimism, faith, and charisma, and although he will be deeply  
9 missed, the blessing of his life will be forever cherished by those  
10 who were privileged to share in his love and friendship; now,  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Roger P. Pena, Jr.,  
14 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
15 wife, Marisol Pena; to his sons, Ivan A. and Gabriel I. Pena; to his  
16 parents, Roger O. and Paulita Pena; to his grandmother, Lillie Q.  
17 Pena; to his sisters, Karen M. Pena and her fiancé, Eddie Benavides,  
18 Yvette Hernandez and her husband, Robert, and Annette Martinez and  
19 her husband, David; to his brother, Frederick Pena; to his nephews,  
20 Cameron R. Pena and Stephen Padilla; to his nieces, Erika and  
21 Clarissa Hernandez and Calista Martinez; to his parents-in-law,  
22 Jose Q. and Maria Sandra Gomez; and to his other relatives and many  
23 friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of U.S. Army  
27 Sergeant Roger P. Pena, Jr.