

By: Lucio

S.C.R. No. 4

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, From the outset of this nation's history, its
2 security has been dependent on individuals who have demonstrated
3 their responsibilities as citizens through service, leadership,
4 and valor in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Since the fall of Saigon in April 1975, and the
6 discharge of the last Selective Service draftee five months later,
7 our military has relied on an all-volunteer force, requiring
8 numbers of courageous young men and women to step forward to serve
9 their country; and

10 WHEREAS, In various engagements subsequent to our departure
11 from Vietnam, over 4,000 brave Americans have been killed in
12 action, or otherwise have lost their lives, in combat zones and
13 areas of conflict around the world; and

14 WHEREAS, Presently, the grounds of the state Capitol in
15 Austin are home to memorials to those who fought in World War I and
16 the Korean War; placement of monuments or memorials to those who
17 fought and served in World War II and the Vietnam War have been
18 approved by the Texas Legislature and await project completion; and

19 WHEREAS, Under Chapter 443, Government Code, and rules of the
20 State Preservation Board, a portion of the north Capitol grounds is
21 available for new monuments, subject to legislative approval,
22 specified procedural requirements, the provision of funding from
23 private donors, conformity to certain size and design limitations
24 and parameters, and completion on a timely basis; and

1 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Legislature find that a
2 commemorative monument in honor of Texans who have participated in
3 more recent military actions would be a worthy addition to the
4 Capitol grounds; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
6 hereby authorize the State Preservation Board, subject to state law
7 and rules of the board, to approve and permit the construction of a
8 new monument on the Capitol grounds recognizing Texans who have
9 fought or otherwise served, and in many cases have given their
10 lives, in specified military operations since the end of the
11 Vietnam War; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the monument honor Texans who have
13 participated in: the rescue of the *S.S. Mayaguez* in Cambodia;
14 Operation Eagle Claw-Iran; the Beirut deployment of the early
15 1980s; Operation Urgent Fury-Grenada; Operation El Dorado
16 Canyon-Libya; Operation Earnest Will-Kuwait; Operation Just
17 Cause-Panama; the Persian Gulf War of 1990-1991, Operation Restore
18 Hope-Somalia; Operation Uphold Democracy-Haiti; international
19 peacekeeping and other operations and missions in Kosovo and the
20 Balkans generally; the attack on the *U.S.S. Cole*; military
21 defensive actions during and in the immediate aftermath of 9/11;
22 Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan; and Operation Iraqi
23 Freedom; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That also eligible would be those who fight or
25 otherwise serve in any specific operation, mission, or other
26 engagement that is added, between the approval of this resolution
27 and the approval of the monument or memorial design, to: the

1 conflicts listed in Section 54.203, Education Code; the conflicts
2 identified by presidential executive order under 8 U.S.C. Section
3 1440; or the conflicts in combat zones identified by presidential
4 executive order under 26 U.S.C. Section 112; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward an
6 official copy of this resolution to the executive director of the
7 State Preservation Board.