

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 329

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Martin Contreras, who recently received a Bronze Star Medal for his service in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Marty Contreras originally joined the United States Army in order to pay for his education, and he completed a bachelor's degree in biology while stationed at Fort Bragg; he also earned certification as a licensed vocational nurse with the army; and

WHEREAS, He was first deployed to Afghanistan in September of 2001 following the terrorist attacks on New York City; he was next sent to Iraq, where he helped set up combat support hospitals; he completed active duty in the summer of 2004 and then enrolled in graduate school; and

WHEREAS, Marty wanted to be commissioned as an officer, so he joined the nearest National Guard unit that had a Special Forces group, which was located in Mississippi; in January of 2006, his battalion volunteered for a mission in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, There were more military forces in Afghanistan this time and more Taliban resistance fighters; in addition to conducting raids on Taliban hideouts, Marty led a team that set up 25 humanitarian and medical aid clinics across the country; and

WHEREAS, Because of his leadership and his outstanding service as a Special Forces medic in Afghanistan, Marty received a Bronze Star Medal, which is awarded for heroic or meritorious achievement; and

WHEREAS, Marty is now a graduate student and works as an occupational safety specialist at The University of Texas at San Antonio; he is pursuing a master's degree in education with a concentration in health and kinesiology; and

WHEREAS, He has applied for medical school and plans to study orthopedic surgery and return to the battlefield as a military surgeon; and

WHEREAS, Marty's commitment to accomplishing his goals, his success in achieving his educational pursuits, and his valor on the battlefield are truly inspiring, and he is indeed worthy of legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend Martin Contreras for his exemplary dedication and his courage in service to his country; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of highest regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 27, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate