SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 419 In Memory of Benito A. Ramirez

WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at the loss of United States Marine Lance Corporal Benito A. Ramirez of Edinburg, who died on May 21, 2006, at the age of 21, while serving his country in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, A member of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force based at Camp Pendleton, California, Lance Corporal Ramirez was killed during combat operations in Al Anbar Province; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Ramirez joined the Marines in December of 2002 and was trained as a 0331 machine gunner; he completed two tours of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom and embarked on his third in January of 2006; and

WHEREAS, Highly decorated for his courageous service, Lance Corporal Ramirez earned the Purple Heart, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with two bronze stars, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, Exemplifying the highest ideals of the United States Marine Corps, Benito Ramirez inspired others with his courage; although his death leaves a void in the lives of his loved ones, they will forever carry memories of him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby honor the memory of Lance Corporal Benito A. Ramirez and extend sincere sympathy to all those who mourn his passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lance Corporal Benito A. Ramirez.

Hinojosa

Averitt Brimer Carona Deuell Duncan Ellis Eltife Estes Fraser Gallegos Harris Hegar Jackson Janek Lucio Nelson Nichols Ogden Patrick Seliger Shapiro Shapleigh Uresti Van de Putte Watson Wentworth West Whitmire Williams Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 6, 2007, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate