

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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C.S.S.C.R. 5
By: Averitt
Veteran Affairs and Military Installations
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Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Hill College has installed the Texas Medal of Honor Memorial as a tribute to all native-born Texans who have received that distinction, the highest reward that can be bestowed on a member of the United States armed forces. Located on the campus of Hill College in front of the Texas Heritage Museum, the memorial serves to enhance the mission of the museum, which is to explore the experience of Texas and Texans in wartime and the ways in which that experience continues to affect us today. Of more than 3,400 individuals who had received the Medal of Honor as of January 1, 2009, 56 individuals were born in the Lone Star State. The central shaft of the memorial highlights the valor of Texans Audie Murphy and Samuel Dealey, the most decorated members of the United States Army and Navy, respectively, in World War II. Among the prize holdings of the Texas Heritage Museum are an extensive collection of Audie Murphy's personal artifacts from World War II, the Medal of Honor that was awarded to James Harris, a World War II tank commander and Hillsboro native, and a large number of photographs and documents relating to other Texan Medal of Honor recipients. To be considered as a nominee for the Medal of Honor, a man or woman is required to have demonstrated conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty and at the risk of his or her life. In paying solemn tribute to those Texans who have exemplified the highest standards of courage, selflessness, and devotion to duty, the memorial at Hill College commemorates those who have earned the lasting gratitude and respect of all Americans.

RESOLVED

That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate the Texas Medal of Honor Memorial at Hill College as the official State Memorial to Texas-Born Medal of Honor Recipients.