

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 2135
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; April 17, 2009, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; April 17, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to a monument dedicated to members of the armed forces from
1-9 this state who died in combat.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 2165.2561, Government Code, is amended
1-12 by adding Subsection (v) to read as follows:

1-13 (v) The State Cemetery Committee shall erect a flagpole and
1-14 an appropriate monument in the military monument area of the State
1-15 Cemetery dedicated to military personnel from the state who are
1-16 killed while serving in a combat zone. When the committee is
1-17 notified by the Texas Veterans Commission that a member of the
1-18 United States armed forces from the state was killed while serving
1-19 in a combat zone, the committee shall ensure that the flag at the
1-20 monument is displayed at half-staff for an appropriate period as a
1-21 mark of respect to the memory of the deceased member of the armed
1-22 forces.

1-23 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is
1-24 amended by adding Section 434.020 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 434.020. NOTICE TO STATE CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF
1-26 SERVICEMEMBER'S DEATH. The Texas Veterans Commission shall notify
1-27 the State Cemetery Committee as soon as practicable after the
1-28 commission receives notice of the death of a member of the United
1-29 States armed forces from the state who is killed while serving in a
1-30 combat zone.

1-31 SECTION 3. The State Cemetery Committee shall consult with
1-32 the standing committees of each house of the legislature with
1-33 jurisdiction over military and veterans matters in planning the
1-34 monument required under Subsection (v), Section 2165.2561,
1-35 Government Code, as added by this Act.

1-36 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-37 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-38 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-39 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-40 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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