

By: Alonzo

H.R. No. 101

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Torres family of Dallas has made a significant
2 contribution to the defense of our nation by sending six brothers to
3 serve in the United States armed forces, with their combined tenure
4 in uniform totaling 56 years; and

5 WHEREAS, These patriotic Texans were born to Vincent and
6 Manuela Torres, who had met in Texas after immigrating to the United
7 States from Mexico during their youth; after initially living in
8 Malakoff, the couple and their children moved to Oak Cliff in 1940,
9 and the children were students at Crozier Technical High School and
10 other local schools; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1944, Rodolfo Torres, the eldest son, turned 18
12 and began the family's tradition of military service when he became
13 a member of the U.S. Army; he fought in the Philippines during the
14 closing years of World War II and was a member of the Texas National
15 Guard from 1947 to 1981; and

16 WHEREAS, Marcos Ruelas Torres followed his older brother into
17 the army in 1948; he was among the U.S. forces to take part in the
18 Korean War, suffering both a bullet wound to his hand and frostbite
19 during desperate winter fighting against Chinese and North Korean
20 troops, but he survived his combat experiences and returned home in
21 1951; and

22 WHEREAS, The next family member to take up arms was Alejandro
23 Torres, who was a member of the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1955 and was
24 assigned to a submarine base in Hawaii for much of his tenure; even

1 before Alejandro concluded his service, Vicente Torres, Jr.,
2 entered the army and was stationed at Fort Lewis in Washington
3 during a two-year term of duty that began in 1953; and

4 WHEREAS, Jose Torres chose to fulfill his military commitment
5 in the U.S. Air Force from 1958 to 1963 and spent part of that time
6 at Webb Air Force Base in Big Spring; the last of the brothers to
7 enter the armed forces was Arturo Torres; while in the army from
8 1963 to 1969, he fought in Vietnam, marking the third war that a
9 family member had participated in; and

10 WHEREAS, These courageous individuals ably carried out their
11 military duties, and three of the brothers received medals for
12 their actions; moreover, several of the family members became
13 active in the American G.I. Forum, which helped to champion the
14 rights of Hispanic American servicemen; though Rodolfo Torres
15 passed away in 2009, the rest of the brothers continue to live in
16 Texas and are staunch advocates of military service, often
17 encouraging young Latinos to consider enlisting; and

18 WHEREAS, The members of this remarkable family have
19 established a notable record of service in behalf of their fellow
20 citizens, and their sacrifices and contributions are indeed
21 deserving of recognition; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
23 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to Rodolfo,
24 Marcos, Alejandro, Vicente, Jose, and Arturo Torres for their
25 valiant service in the armed forces of the United States of America;
26 and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for the family as an expression of high regard by the Texas
2 House of Representatives.