

By: Callegari

H.R. No. 1645

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In October 2010, the Galveston Company of the
2 Houston Medical Response Group of the Texas State Guard was
3 officially activated as the Galveston Medical Response Group,
4 becoming the first and only company in the Texas State Guard to earn
5 such a designation; the unit is commemorating that achievement with
6 an activation ceremony on April 30, 2011, and this occasion
7 provides a welcome opportunity to recognize the outstanding service
8 it has rendered to the citizens of the Lone Star State; and

9 WHEREAS, An all-volunteer military organization, the
10 Galveston Company provides licensed public health support
11 personnel and technical support expertise and serves as a medical
12 response team for large-scale natural and man-made disasters;
13 formed in 2005 under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Brian
14 Zachariah, the unit has been led by Lieutenant Colonel Roger
15 Vertrees since 2009, and as of September 2010 included 50 soldiers;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The members of the company have been especially
18 effective in responding to the hurricanes that have made landfall
19 in Texas in the past five years; for its actions during Hurricanes
20 Katrina and Rita, the group was awarded the Texas Governor's Unit
21 Citation for Meritorious Conduct in Performance of Outstanding
22 Service as well as the State Guard Association of the United States
23 Superior Unit Citation; in addition, its members' efforts during
24 Katrina earned the company the Meritorious Unit Award; and

1 WHEREAS, Since 2006, the Galveston Company has taken part in
2 Operation Lone Star, an annual joint civilian and military
3 humanitarian medical mission that takes place along the
4 Texas-Mexico border; this worthwhile initiative allows the unit to
5 conduct medical-innovative readiness training exercises while
6 simultaneously providing free medical services to residents
7 throughout the Rio Grande Valley; and

8 WHEREAS, The exemplary work of the Galveston Company, often
9 rendered in demanding and dangerous conditions, is in keeping with
10 the proud tradition of service that has distinguished the Texas
11 State Guard throughout its 70-year history, and the company's
12 soldiers are richly deserving of the response group status that has
13 been bestowed on their unit; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
15 Legislature hereby honor the Galveston Company of the Houston
16 Medical Response Group of the Texas State Guard on its activation as
17 the Galveston Medical Response Group and extend sincere gratitude
18 to its members for their remarkable service and heroism; and, be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for the unit as an expression of high regard by the Texas
22 House of Representatives.