

By: Castro

H.R. No. 1962

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Vice Admiral William H. McRaven has served the
2 United States of America with tremendous valor and dedication for
3 more than three decades, and he played a crucial role in bringing
4 terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden to justice on May 1, 2011; and

5 WHEREAS, A highly decorated Navy SEAL, Vice Admiral McRaven
6 has led the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) since 2008; in
7 that role, he has guided the mission to neutralize our nation's most
8 dangerous enemies, including the Al Qaeda leader responsible for
9 killing nearly 3,000 innocent people on September 11, 2001; from a
10 position on the ground in Afghanistan, Vice Admiral McRaven
11 commanded SEAL Team Six as it entered a compound in Pakistan and
12 ended the long search for bin Laden; and

13 WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio, Vice Admiral McRaven was a
14 member of the Naval ROTC program at The University of Texas at
15 Austin and graduated in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in
16 journalism; he later continued his education at the Naval
17 Postgraduate School, where he helped establish the Special
18 Operations/Low Intensity Conflict curriculum; his master's thesis
19 became required reading for Special Ops commanders; and

20 WHEREAS, This remarkable Texan has commanded at every level
21 within the special operations community, from SEAL platoon leader
22 to commodore of Naval Special Warfare Group 1; with diverse staff
23 and interagency experience, he directed antiterrorism strategy for
24 the National Security Council following 9/11, and he headed Task

1 Force 121, which was also instrumental in the capture of Saddam
2 Hussein; and

3 WHEREAS, From 2006-2008, Vice Admiral McRaven served as
4 commander of Special Operations Command Europe; he was also the
5 first director of the NATO Special Operations Forces Coordination
6 Centre, charged with enhancing the capabilities and
7 interoperability of all NATO Special Ops forces; during his tenure
8 as JSOC commander, he has instituted measures to speed the sharing
9 of information regarding terrorist threats and to streamline
10 operations targeting suspected militants; and

11 WHEREAS, The navy has awarded Vice Admiral McRaven the Bronze
12 Star, Legion of Merit, and Defense Superior Service Medal, among
13 other decorations; in early April, President Obama nominated him to
14 receive a fourth star and to assume leadership of United States
15 Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, A student of history, Vice Admiral McRaven analyzed
18 surgical strike missions dating back to World War II in his highly
19 regarded 1995 book, *Spec Ops: Case Studies in Special Operations:*
20 *Theory and Practice*; he now holds his own place in history, and it
21 is indeed fitting to honor his extraordinary contributions to the
22 preservation of our nation's freedom and security; now, therefore,
23 be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
25 Legislature hereby commend Vice Admiral William H. McRaven for his
26 distinguished service to the United States of America and
27 congratulate him on his nomination to lead U.S. Special Operations

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1 Command; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for Vice Admiral McRaven as an expression of high regard by
4 the Texas House of Representatives.