

By: Lewis

H.R. No. 2290

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The friends and family of U.S. Army Sergeant John
2 Paul Castro suffered an immeasurable loss with the death of this
3 valiant soldier on April 22, 2011, at the age of 25; and

4 WHEREAS, Assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry
5 Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division,
6 Sergeant Castro was mortally wounded while bravely supporting
7 Operation Enduring Freedom in Paktika Province in Afghanistan; and

8 WHEREAS, Born in Andrews on January 20, 1986, John Paul
9 Castro was the son of David Castro, Sr., and Carmen Armendariz
10 Castro; he played tuba in the band at Andrews High School and
11 excelled at baseball, bringing home numerous trophies; after his
12 graduation in 2004, he enlisted in the army with his best friend and
13 headed off to boot camp the next month; and

14 WHEREAS, Sergeant Castro was posted to Fort Campbell in
15 Kentucky in January 2006 and served two tours of duty in Iraq, where
16 he was twice awarded the Purple Heart; among numerous decorations,
17 he also received the Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal with
18 Valor device, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign
19 Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal,
20 North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal, and Combat Infantryman
21 Badge; and

22 WHEREAS, Devoted to his loved ones, Sergeant Castro shared a
23 rewarding relationship with his wife, Delia, and took great pride
24 in his daughter, Natalia, and stepson, Kamren Shaw Buchholz; he

1 gallantly expressed his love for his mother by turning up at her
2 workplace in uniform and with a dozen roses as soon as he got home on
3 breaks, and he enjoyed eating the Mexican food she prepared for him
4 and spending time with his extended family, whether simply relaxing
5 or helping with a difficult task; and

6 WHEREAS, John Paul Castro was unwavering in his courage and
7 dedication to duty and honor; he embodied the highest ideals of the
8 United States armed forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a debt
9 of gratitude that the passage of time can never diminish; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Army Sergeant
13 John Paul Castro and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his
14 family: to his wife, Delia Butas Castro; to his daughter, Natalia
15 Marie Castro; to his stepson, Kamren Shaw Buchholz; to his mother,
16 Carmen Castro; to his father, David Castro, Sr.; to his sister,
17 Blanca Castro Thakker; to his brother, David Castro, Jr.; and to his
18 many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of U.S. Army
22 Sergeant John Paul Castro.