

By: Martinez

H.R. No. 2600

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Army Sergeant
2 Fernando De La Rosa suffered an immeasurable loss with the death of
3 this valiant soldier on October 27, 2009, at the age of 24; and

4 WHEREAS, Assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry
5 Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division based at Fort
6 Lewis, Washington, Sergeant De La Rosa was killed when his vehicle
7 was struck by an improvised explosive device in the Arghandab
8 Valley in Afghanistan; and

9 WHEREAS, Fernando De La Rosa was born in McAllen on June 21,
10 1985, to Rolando and Rosa De La Rosa and was raised in Alamo;
11 shortly after graduating from Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Memorial High
12 School in 2003, he enlisted in the army and received his basic and
13 advanced infantry training at Fort Benning, Georgia; he served two
14 tours of duty in Iraq, from December 2003 to July 2004 and again
15 from January 2006 to May 2007, and he was also stationed in Germany,
16 Austria, and Italy; at the time of his death, he was serving his
17 first tour in Afghanistan; and

18 WHEREAS, A rifleman, infantry fighting vehicle driver, and
19 ammunition section leader, Sergeant De La Rosa received many
20 decorations during his career, including the Army Commendation
21 Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, two Army Good Conduct Medals,
22 the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the
23 Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, the Army
24 Service Ribbon, two Overseas Service Ribbons, the Combat

1 Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, and the Driver and
2 Mechanic Badge; and

3 WHEREAS, In recognition of his final sacrifice, Sergeant De
4 La Rosa was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple
5 Heart, and on December 30, 2009, the Sergeant Fernando De La Rosa
6 Memorial Library was named in his honor in his hometown of Alamo;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Known as "Nando" to his loved ones, Sergeant De La
9 Rosa was devoted to his wife, Karen, and their sons, Fernando and
10 Juan Carlos, and he maintained close bonds with the other members of
11 his family; his sense of humor was greatly appreciated by all who
12 knew him, and he loved playing football with his father, brothers,
13 cousins, and uncles; and

14 WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt of gratitude to our
15 nation's servicemen and servicewomen, whose courageous efforts and
16 enormous sacrifices are deserving of their fellow citizens' deepest
17 respect and gratitude; through his unwavering dedication to duty
18 and honor, Fernando De La Rosa embodied the highest ideals of the
19 United States armed forces, and memories of his love and friendship
20 will be forever cherished by those who held him dear; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Army Sergeant
24 Fernando De La Rosa and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
25 his family: to his wife, Karen De La Rosa; to his sons, Fernando and
26 Juan Carlos De La Rosa; to his parents, Rosa and Rolando De La Rosa;
27 to his brothers, Rolando, Alfredo, Rogelio, and Rayven De La Rosa;

1 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Fernando De
5 La Rosa.