

1-1 By: Hinojosa, Birdwell S.C.R. No. 37
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 28, 2011; March 28, 2011, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; April 19, 2011, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 3, Nays 0; April 19, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The exemplary acts of bravery and distinguished
1-8 service rendered by the members of the United States military are
1-9 honored in a variety of ways, but it is the Purple Heart that speaks
1-10 most eloquently to the essential sacrifices that are often required
1-11 of those who fight for our nation; and

1-12 WHEREAS, The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the
1-13 president of the United States to any member of the armed forces who
1-14 is wounded or killed by the enemy in combat operations; and

1-15 WHEREAS, This medal dates to the early years of our nation,
1-16 having originally been authorized by General George Washington, on
1-17 August 7, 1782, to recognize members of the Continental Army during
1-18 the Revolutionary War; known as the Badge of Military Merit, the
1-19 award created by General Washington entitled recipients to wear a
1-20 heart-shaped figure of purple cloth as a symbol of their exemplary
1-21 actions; and

1-22 WHEREAS, When reestablished in 1932, the Purple Heart was
1-23 initially a commendation for members of the United States Army and
1-24 United States Army Air Corps and was retroactively awarded to
1-25 soldiers in previous conflicts; in 1942, its scope was broadened to
1-26 include the members of all branches of the military who had been
1-27 killed or wounded in action, and the National Purple Heart Hall of
1-28 Honor estimates that 1.7 million Americans have received the medal
1-29 through the years; and

1-30 WHEREAS, In momentous conflicts that range from the Civil War
1-31 through the present engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan, valiant
1-32 men and women have stepped into harm's way to defend our country,
1-33 and those who paid with their lives or who were wounded in combat
1-34 are deservedly honored by being designated recipients of the Purple
1-35 Heart; and

1-36 WHEREAS, These courageous individuals are owed a debt of
1-37 remembrance by all who have benefited from their service, and it is
1-38 indeed appropriate that their heroism be annually honored by the
1-39 citizens of Texas on August 7, the anniversary of the date on which
1-40 General Washington established the Badge of Military Merit; now,
1-41 therefore, be it

1-42 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
1-43 hereby designate August 7 as Purple Heart Day and urge all Texans to
1-44 reflect on the extraordinary contributions made by the past and
1-45 present members of the United States armed forces; and, be it
1-46 further

1-47 RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of
1-48 Subsection (d), Section 391.004, Government Code, the designation
1-49 expires on the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is
1-50 passed by the legislature.

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