

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 703

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War served our nation under the most trying conditions, at a time when the nation was divided in its support; and

WHEREAS, The exemplary performance of Americans who served during the Vietnam War reflected the highest standards of bravery, sacrifice, and courage; and

WHEREAS, One out of every 10 Americans who served in Vietnam was a casualty and 58,148 United States service members made the ultimate sacrifice, 3,400 from Texas; nearly 2,100 Americans are still missing and unaccounted for, and there were over 660 military prisoners of war; and

WHEREAS, Of the 2.59 million who served in Vietnam, 304,000 were wounded; approximately 75,000 were severely disabled; and

WHEREAS, When these service members returned home, they were caught in the crossfire of public debate, protests, and turmoil about our nation's involvement in the Vietnam War; as a result these brave men and women did not receive the welcome home, salute, and gratitude they justly deserved; and

WHEREAS, All these men and women deserve our steadfast recognition and praise; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of our nation, state, counties, and cities must never forget the pain and suffering that existed yesterday and still exists today for the men and women who fought with honor and distinction, some sacrificing their lives, in the name of freedom and democracy for all; and

WHEREAS, The South Texas region has united to work together to organize, promote, and host a long-overdue historical tribute and event for all Vietnam veterans of South Texas; and

WHEREAS, April 12 through April 14, 2011, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall That Heals will be in Corpus Christi at the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center; the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi, with the support of the Port of Corpus Christi, is hosting and sponsoring all the events during the three-day visit of the Wall That Heals; and

WHEREAS, The events are conceived as a living memorial to promote regional awareness, celebration, and acknowledgement of the Vietnam veterans who served, those living, and those who have passed away; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby commend the efforts of the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi and the Port of Corpus Christi in hosting and sponsoring all the events to properly welcome home and salute our

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Vietnam veterans from South Texas during the Corpus Christi exhibition of the Wall That Heals; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of this special event.

Hinojosa

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 5, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate