

By: Pitts

H.C.R. No. 69

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established
2 to recognize gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state
3 or federal military forces, and U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Chris
4 Kyle, the most successful sniper in U.S. military history, proved
5 himself a deserving recipient of this prestigious award; and

6 WHEREAS, Born in Odessa on April 8, 1974, Christopher Scott
7 Kyle learned patience and marksmanship at an early age; his father
8 bought him a rifle when he was eight, and he hunted on the family
9 ranch for pheasant and deer; after high school, he worked as a ranch
10 hand and a professional rodeo rider until he was injured; despite
11 the pins in his arm from his rodeo injuries, he actively sought to
12 serve his nation, and thanks to his grit and determination, he was
13 accepted into the elite Navy SEALs unit in 1999; and

14 WHEREAS, Chief Petty Officer Kyle served four tours of duty
15 in Iraq as a member of SEAL Team 3, and he fought in every major
16 battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom, including engagements in Ramadi,
17 Fallujah, and Baghdad; working in hot, dirty, and dangerous
18 conditions, Chief Kyle put himself in harm's way on a daily basis,
19 setting up his sniper's post in abandoned buildings, sometimes for
20 as long as five weeks at a time, watching tirelessly through his
21 scope for enemy combatants and, through his efforts, saving
22 countless American lives; and

23 WHEREAS, Known by his peers as "the Legend" for his uncanny
24 skill, Chief Kyle often successfully took long-range shots, and in

1 Sadr City in 2008, after he spotted an insurgent approaching an army
2 convoy with a rocket launcher, he shot the man from a distance of
3 2,100 yards, or 1.2 miles; as feared by the enemy as he was
4 celebrated by his fellow Americans, Chief Kyle was nicknamed
5 *Al-Shaitan Ramadi*, or "The Devil of Ramadi," by the insurgents, who
6 put an \$80,000 price on his head; and

7 WHEREAS, Chief Kyle performed his duty in extremely difficult
8 conditions and at great risk to himself; he was shot twice and
9 survived six IED explosions; by the time he left the navy to return
10 to his family in Texas in 2009, he was credited with the highest
11 number of confirmed kills in U.S. military history, and he had been
12 recognized with two Silver Stars and five Bronze Stars with Valor,
13 among many other decorations; and

14 WHEREAS, Chief Kyle continued to distinguish himself in
15 civilian life, running a security training company, publishing a
16 best-selling combat memoir, and working with the FITCO Cares
17 Foundation to provide support to disabled veterans; tragically, he
18 died while trying to help another veteran, and such was the respect
19 and admiration he had earned from his fellow Texans that his funeral
20 procession from Midlothian to Austin stretched for more than 200
21 miles, one of the longest memorial processions in American history;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Chris Kyle repeatedly risked his life to save the
24 lives of his fellow soldiers and to advance their mission, and for
25 his remarkable heroism he is most assuredly deserving of this
26 state's supreme military award; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas

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1 hereby direct the governor of the State of Texas to posthumously
2 award the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Christopher Scott
3 Kyle in recognition of his valiant service during Operation Iraqi
4 Freedom.