

By: Geren

H.C.R. No. 209

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For well over a century, Americans have set aside a
2 time to honor those members of its military forces who have died in
3 this country's service; and

4 WHEREAS, Originally called Decoration Day, this special
5 remembrance was first observed in 1868, when flowers were placed on
6 the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers, and by the end of the
7 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30
8 throughout the nation; in 1971, Congress designated the last Monday
9 in May as Memorial Day; and

10 WHEREAS, Legions of Americans have stepped forward to serve
11 their country in times of conflict, and more than a million have
12 made the ultimate sacrifice; they "gave the last full measure of
13 devotion" on their native soil, in foreign lands, and on seas around
14 the world, and on this Memorial Day, as Texans pause to remember, we
15 commemorate with fresh sorrow all Texans who have been killed in
16 combat; and

17 WHEREAS, The longest sustained U.S. military operation in
18 history, the Global War on Terrorism has claimed the lives of more
19 than 6,600 American service members, including over 580 Texans;
20 today we expressly want to pay homage to those brave fallen soldiers
21 and the families they left behind; and

22 WHEREAS, It is a grateful nation that reflects on our
23 American heritage and recognizes the extreme sacrifices made by all
24 who serve in the armed forces; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED by the 83rd Texas Legislature, That the Senate and
2 House of Representatives of the State of Texas meet in a joint
3 memorial session in the Hall of the House of Representatives on
4 Saturday, May 25, 2013, at 10 a.m., for the Fallen Heroes Memorial
5 Service to pay tribute to all who have died in the service of this
6 country and to honor especially the Texans killed while serving in
7 the Global War on Terrorism; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas,
9 all Texas state officials, and the family members of those killed in
10 the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan be, and hereby are, invited to
11 attend the joint memorial session; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby commemorate Memorial Day 2013 and express deep appreciation
14 to all the men and women who have served our great country.