

By: King of Hemphill

H.R. No. 1260

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Joe Hernandez of Pampa was presented a Bronze Star
2 on March 12, 2013, in recognition of his courageous service as a
3 member of the United States Army in World War II; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Hernandez graduated from Pampa High School in
5 May 1944 and, answering his country's call to duty, enlisted in the
6 United States Army that September; after 12 weeks of training in
7 Mineral Wells, he was sent to the front lines in Europe, where
8 Allied forces had just pushed back a massive German offensive in the
9 Battle of the Bulge; and

10 WHEREAS, In February 1945, Mr. Hernandez joined the 78th
11 Division in Schmidt, Germany, near the Belgian border; as the
12 Allies pushed ever deeper into Germany from the west, he and his
13 unit marched up to 20 miles a day; during their advance, Mr.
14 Hernandez sustained multiple injuries from mortar shrapnel in the
15 course of a firefight with German troops; he was sent to Paris to
16 recuperate, but after just three weeks he returned to the front;
17 following the end of the war in Europe, he remained in Germany for a
18 time on occupation duty; and

19 WHEREAS, For his intrepid service, Mr. Hernandez was awarded
20 the Combat Infantry Badge, a decoration that made him eligible for
21 the Bronze Star; he is also the recipient of the Purple Heart, the
22 Good Conduct Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign
23 Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Army of Occupation of
24 Germany and Japan Medal; and

1 WHEREAS, After his discharge from the military, this esteemed
2 veteran returned home, married, and raised a family; he worked for
3 the railroad and then spent 27 years as a mail carrier with the
4 postal service before his retirement; and

5 WHEREAS, Joe Hernandez exemplifies the selflessness and
6 courage of those who fought for this country during the most
7 far-reaching conflict in world history, and his fellow citizens owe
8 him a profound and lasting debt of gratitude; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor Joe Hernandez on his receipt of the Bronze
11 Star and extend to him sincere appreciation for his steadfast
12 patriotism and service; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Mr. Hernandez as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives.