

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 480

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing the 65th Infantry Regiment for its service and sacrifices in defense of the United States of America during wartime; and

WHEREAS, This distinctive military unit hailed from Puerto Rico and its members were known as the Borinqueneers; the unit was founded in 1899 and remained a vital part of the United States armed forces until 1956, when the regiment was inactivated; and

WHEREAS, Known for their fierce fighting spirit, members of the 65th Infantry Regiment served in multiple conflicts; during World War I and in 1943, the Borinqueneers were sent to guard the Panama Canal; in 1944, they were deployed to North Africa, Italy, Corsica, France, and the Maritime Alps, where they engaged in their first combat and suffered 47 casualties; and

WHEREAS, In Korea, the regiment saw its finest, and gravest, hour; facing off against Chinese soldiers, they fought to hold open the retreat route from the Chosin Reservoir, and on February 2, 1951, two battalions of Borinqueneers took part in the last battalion bayonet charge in United States Army history; Puerto Rican soldiers also defended a recuperating United States Army division from infiltrating North Korean soldiers; by the time the regiment was inactivated, more than 750 Borinqueneers had died and 2,400 had been wounded in the Korean War alone; and

WHEREAS, In 1959, the regiment was allotted to the Puerto Rico Army National Guard, where the 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry still serves; while defending the United States, these brave soldiers earned 628 Bronze Stars, 258 Silver Stars, 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, and more than 2,700 Purple Hearts; their commitment and courage are indeed deserving of this country's praise and gratitude; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby commend the 65th Infantry Regiment for its outstanding dedication and service to the United States armed forces; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the regiment as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 19, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate