

1-1 By: Farias, Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Rodríguez) H.C.R. No. 46  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2015;  
1-3 May 7, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran  
1-4 Affairs and Military Installations; May 21, 2015, reported  
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 21, 2015, sent  
1-6 to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	<u>Campbell</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-10	<u>Burton</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-11	<u>Birdwell</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-12	<u>Garcia</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-13	<u>Hall</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-14	<u>Lucio</u>	<u>X</u>		
1-15	<u>Rodríguez</u>	<u>X</u>		

1-16 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-17 WHEREAS, Citizens of the United States owe an incalculable  
1-18 debt to the nation's military personnel, who have served so  
1-19 valiantly and sacrificed so much in this country's behalf; and

1-20 WHEREAS, The current U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
1-21 policy of suspending hospital and outpatient care services to  
1-22 incarcerated veterans is especially detrimental to those  
1-23 individuals in need of mental health care; some of these men and  
1-24 women are committed to the state hospitals awaiting restoration of  
1-25 competency in order to stand trial, and the scarcity of timely  
1-26 access to services in these facilities can prolong their detention;  
1-27 and

1-28 WHEREAS, Veterans suffer disproportionately from  
1-29 post-traumatic stress disorder, which is often worsened by  
1-30 incarceration and can lead to depression and suicidal thoughts and  
1-31 actions, and incarcerated veterans too often lack access to  
1-32 treatment for this condition; and

1-33 WHEREAS, Improved coordination between the VA and state and  
1-34 local jurisdictions would enable eligible veterans to continue to  
1-35 receive mental health care and other VA services; in addition, VA  
1-36 reimbursement provided to secure mental health facilities for  
1-37 forensic beds and services would ensure better medical treatment  
1-38 for veterans and help alleviate the legal delays frequently  
1-39 experienced by incarcerated veterans with mental health issues; and

1-40 WHEREAS, Veterans of the U.S. armed forces have earned the  
1-41 lasting gratitude of all Americans for their devotion to duty, and  
1-42 they are deserving of prompt and compassionate assistance in their  
1-43 time of need; now, therefore, be it

1-44 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
1-45 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to  
1-46 require the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide VA  
1-47 services to veterans on forensic commitments at state hospitals;  
1-48 and, be it further

1-49 RESOLVED, That Congress consider expanding such services to  
1-50 all incarcerated veterans; and, be it further

1-51 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
1-52 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
1-53 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of  
1-54 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the  
1-55 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that  
1-56 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a  
1-57 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

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