

1-1 By: Wray (Senate Sponsor - Birdwell) H.C.R. No. 85
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 13, 2015;
1-3 May 14, 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 6, Nays 0; May 21, 2015, sent
1-6 to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

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

1-16 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-17 WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established
1-18 to recognize gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state
1-19 or federal military forces, and U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Chris
1-20 Kyle, the most successful sniper in U.S. military history, proved
1-21 himself a deserving recipient of this prestigious award; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Born in Odessa on April 8, 1974, Christopher Scott
1-23 Kyle learned patience and marksmanship at an early age; his father
1-24 bought him a rifle when he was eight, and he hunted on the family
1-25 ranch for pheasant and deer; after high school, he worked as a ranch
1-26 hand and a professional rodeo rider until he was injured; despite
1-27 the pins in his arm from his rodeo injuries, he actively sought to
1-28 serve his nation, and thanks to his grit and determination, he was
1-29 accepted into the elite Navy SEALs unit in 1999; and

1-30 WHEREAS, Chief Petty Officer Kyle served four tours of duty
1-31 in Iraq as a member of SEAL Team 3, and he fought in every major
1-32 battle of Operation Iraqi Freedom, including engagements in Ramadi,
1-33 Fallujah, and Baghdad; working in hot, dirty, and dangerous
1-34 conditions, Chief Kyle put himself in harm's way on a daily basis,
1-35 setting up his sniper's post in abandoned buildings, sometimes for
1-36 as long as five weeks at a time, watching tirelessly through his
1-37 scope for enemy combatants and, through his efforts, saving
1-38 countless American lives; and

1-39 WHEREAS, Known by his peers as "the Legend" for his uncanny
1-40 skill, Chief Kyle often successfully took long-range shots, and in
1-41 Sadr City in 2008, after he spotted an insurgent approaching an army
1-42 convoy with a rocket launcher, he shot the man from a distance of
1-43 2,100 yards, or 1.2 miles; as feared by the enemy as he was
1-44 celebrated by his fellow Americans, Chief Kyle was nicknamed
1-45 *Al-Shaitan Ramadi*, or "The Devil of Ramadi," by the insurgents, who
1-46 put an \$80,000 price on his head; and

1-47 WHEREAS, Chief Kyle regularly demonstrated conspicuous
1-48 gallantry in the thick of combat; during the second battle for
1-49 Fallujah in November 2004, two Marines and two journalists were
1-50 trapped near a heavily fortified enemy position, and as the Marines
1-51 around him provided covering fire, Chief Kyle dashed through enemy
1-52 fire, joined the trapped men, and provided suppressing fire to
1-53 enable them to escape; then, as he made his own escape, he
1-54 discovered one of the Marines wounded in the road, and, with enemy
1-55 rounds thudding all around him, he grabbed his wounded comrade by
1-56 his body armor and dragged him 50 yards to safety; he then returned
1-57 to the battle until the last enemy insurgent was killed; and

1-58 WHEREAS, Chief Kyle's bravery that day earned him one of his
1-59 five Bronze Stars with Valor, and he also received two Silver Stars
1-60 along with many other decorations; he was shot twice and survived
1-61 six IED explosions, and by the time he left the navy to return to his

2-1 family in Texas in 2009, he was credited with the highest number of
2-2 confirmed kills in U.S. military history; and

2-3 WHEREAS, Chief Kyle continued to distinguish himself in
2-4 civilian life, running a security training company and publishing a
2-5 best-selling combat memoir, which inspired an award-winning motion
2-6 picture; he worked with the FITCO Cares Foundation to provide
2-7 support to disabled veterans, and, tragically, he died while trying
2-8 to help another veteran; such was the respect and admiration he had
2-9 earned from his fellow Texans that his funeral procession from
2-10 Midlothian to Austin stretched for more than 200 miles, one of the
2-11 longest memorial processions in American history; and

2-12 WHEREAS, Chris Kyle repeatedly risked his life to save the
2-13 lives of his fellow soldiers and to advance their mission, and for
2-14 his remarkable heroism he is most assuredly deserving of this
2-15 state's supreme military award; now, therefore, be it

2-16 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
2-17 hereby direct the governor of the State of Texas to posthumously
2-18 award the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Christopher Scott
2-19 Kyle in recognition of his valiant service during Operation Iraqi
2-20 Freedom.

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