

By: Raney

H.R. No. 58

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The hardships of our nation's wars in Iraq and  
2 Afghanistan are borne not only by the military personnel who fight  
3 in the wars, but also by their loved ones, and the Gratitude  
4 Initiative, a Texas-based charity, works to aid these families; and

5           WHEREAS, Since the events of September 11, 2001, millions of  
6 active duty military, National Guard, and reserve unit troops have  
7 served in combat zones, and over three million family members,  
8 including more than one million children, have been left at home to  
9 deal with the deployment; parted from their mothers or fathers for  
10 months at a time, these children often find themselves struggling  
11 academically and may face emotional issues caused by the  
12 separation; and

13           WHEREAS, The Gratitude Initiative was founded in Texas by  
14 U.S. Army combat veteran and entrepreneur Lee Sechrist to help  
15 address the needs of these families by providing educational  
16 support and scholarships for children and families of military  
17 service members, veterans, disabled veterans, and those killed in  
18 action; and

19           WHEREAS, Military children endure separation and loss so that  
20 their parents might defend our nation, and all those involved with  
21 the notable endeavors of the Gratitude Initiative to assist these  
22 children truly merit special recognition and praise; now,  
23 therefore, be it

24           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize January 27, 2015, as Gratitude  
2 Initiative/GI Kids Day in Texas and that the citizens of Texas be  
3 encouraged to honor our military families and children for their  
4 service to our nation and state.