

By: Canales

H.R. No. 904

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly half a century, former U.S. Army Sergeant
2 Francisco Barrientes has devoted his best efforts to his country
3 and his community, and he is truly deserving of special
4 recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Edinburg in 1947, Mr. Barrientes graduated
6 from high school and entered the U.S. Army in 1968; from January to
7 July 1969, he fought on behalf of his nation in Vietnam, where he
8 was wounded twice, the second time severely; during his deployment
9 to Vietnam he earned two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star for
10 meritorious service in a combat zone, and he ended his military
11 service at the rank of sergeant; and

12 WHEREAS, After a long and difficult recovery from his
13 injuries, this brave Texan returned to Edinburg, where he has lived
14 a full and rich life with his wife, Martha, and their three
15 children, Leonel Eduardo, Jose Francisco, and Lucy Marie; and

16 WHEREAS, A man of profound religious faith, Mr. Barrientes
17 has been a leading member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Edinburg
18 since 1971; over the years, he has coordinated the altar services
19 and catechism classes and helped the priest oversee the church's
20 various programs and events; and

21 WHEREAS, Francisco Barrientes has likewise dedicated more
22 than 21,000 hours of volunteer service to the Edinburg Independent
23 School District, working with students in groups or individually,
24 helping with PTA fund-raising events, and assisting with myriad

1 campus tasks, as well as taking part in the district's Veterans Day
2 programs; in addition, he has given freely of his time and energies
3 to the Edinburg Parks and Recreation Department and the Edinburg
4 Pony Baseball League; and

5 WHEREAS, Repeatedly honored for his work, Mr. Barrientes has
6 been awarded a certificate of recognition from the Texas House of
7 Representatives, and he has been named a Hero for Children by the
8 Texas State Board of Education; in 2007, the Edinburg ISD named
9 Francisco Barrientes Middle School in his honor; and

10 WHEREAS, Committed to the belief that he was permitted to
11 survive the war in Vietnam for a reason, Francisco Barrientes has
12 triumphed over injury and hardship to lead a fulfilling and
13 purposeful life dedicated to his family, his faith, and his
14 community, and he has been, and continues to be, an inspiration to
15 all who know him; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
17 Legislature hereby commend former U.S. Army Sergeant Francisco
18 Barrientes for his outstanding, lifelong record of service to his
19 nation and his community and extend to him sincere best wishes for
20 continued happiness; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for Mr. Barrientes as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.