

By: Parker

H.R. No. 939

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For many years, the gifted actor Gary Sinise has
2 dedicated his time, energy, and resources to the cause of American
3 service members and veterans, and his work on their behalf truly
4 merits special recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Sinise's acclaimed performances on stage and
6 screen have earned him a Golden Globe, an Emmy, two Screen Actors
7 Guild awards, and three Tony nominations; his notable film roles
8 include Lieutenant Dan Taylor in *Forrest Gump*, George Milton in *Of*
9 *Mice and Men*, and Ken Mattingly in *Apollo 13*, while on television he
10 has played Tom Joad in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Harry S. Truman in
11 *Truman*, and Detective Mac Taylor on 197 episodes of *CSI: New York*;
12 most recently, he has been FBI agent Jack Garrett on *Criminal Minds*;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, From the earliest days of his career, Mr. Sinise has
15 served as an advocate for all who have ever worn a uniform of this
16 nation's armed forces; in the 1980s, he sponsored free dinners and
17 performances for veterans at the Steppenwolf Theatre, the famed
18 company he helped to found in Chicago, and in recent years, he has
19 entertained troops at home and abroad with the Lt. Dan Band, named
20 after his character from *Forrest Gump*, raising money for wounded
21 warriors and their families; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Sinise has also been a spokesperson for the
23 American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation and the
24 Disabled American Veterans, and he has led efforts to raise funds

1 for the Pentagon Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the Brooklyn
2 Wall of Remembrance in New York; he sits on the executive councils
3 of the USO and the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and on
4 the advisory board of Hope for the Warriors; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2011, Mr. Sinise established the Gary Sinise
6 Foundation, which serves and honors our nation's defenders,
7 veterans, and first responders and their families; its outreach
8 efforts include building custom smart homes for severely wounded
9 veterans, providing departing troops with hearty meals, and
10 launching a website, GetSkillstoWork.org, designed to help
11 veterans find civilian jobs; and

12 WHEREAS, In recognition of his commitment to our military men
13 and women, Mr. Sinise has received the Bob Hope Award for
14 Excellence in Entertainment from the Congressional Medal of Honor
15 Society, the Spirit of Hope Award from the U.S. Department of
16 Defense, and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor; he is only the third
17 actor to ever receive the Presidential Citizens Medal, the nation's
18 second-highest civilian award, and in 2012, he was named an
19 honorary chief petty officer in the U.S. Navy; and

20 WHEREAS, Whether he is portraying veterans and police
21 officers with dignity and integrity, performing his music for
22 troops on remote military bases, or advocating on their behalf at
23 home, Gary Sinise has proven to be a true patriot and a tireless
24 champion for our military personnel and veterans; now, therefore,
25 be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
27 Legislature hereby recognize Gary Sinise as an honorary Texan and

H.R. No. 939

1 commend him for his lifelong commitment to America's service
2 members and veterans; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Sinise as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives.