

By: Springer

H.R. No. 148

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Don Pettigrew of Gainesville has rendered exemplary  
2 service to the Medal of Honor Host City program; and

3 WHEREAS, A member of the Bowie High School Class of 1968,  
4 Mr. Pettigrew answered his nation's call to duty during the Vietnam  
5 War, enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps and serving as a rifleman  
6 for two years; decorated with the Purple Heart, the Navy  
7 Commendation Medal with "V" device, and the Combat Action Ribbon,  
8 he received several service and campaign medals and unit citations  
9 as well; and

10 WHEREAS, After returning to civilian life, Mr. Pettigrew  
11 earned a bachelor's degree from North Texas State University, and  
12 in 1985 he became an adult probation officer with the Cooke County  
13 Community Supervision and Corrections Department; during his  
14 21-year tenure with that agency, he also served as the community  
15 service coordinator, overseeing the CSCD work crew and assisting  
16 with a number of significant projects to enhance and benefit the  
17 community; in addition, he played a vital role in planning and  
18 setting up the CSCD Food Bank; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Pettigrew has further contributed to his  
20 community through his extensive involvement in the Medal of Honor  
21 Host City program; he was the driving force behind the creation of  
22 the program, which was organized in 2001 and which is the only  
23 undertaking of its kind in the country; each year, recipients of the  
24 Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor, are

1 invited to Gainesville for a celebration that pays tribute to their  
2 heroism and that enables area residents to meet and visit with the  
3 honorees; activities are planned with a special view to giving  
4 children an opportunity to hear from, and talk with, these  
5 inspiring figures; Mr. Pettigrew served as the program's inaugural  
6 president for seven years, and today he works as a liaison to the  
7 featured guests; he also guided the construction of the Medal of  
8 Honor Park, which was dedicated in April 2015; and

9 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community and his country,  
10 Don Pettigrew has been instrumental in establishing this annual  
11 occasion saluting the most gallant members and veterans of this  
12 country's armed forces, and he has helped to instill the ideals of  
13 patriotism, selflessness, and service in Gainesville's rising  
14 generation; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
16 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Don Pettigrew on  
17 his outstanding work in behalf of the Medal of Honor Host City  
18 program and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and,  
19 be it further

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