

1-1 By: Shine, et al. H.C.R. No. 56
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Taylor of Collin)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 1, 2017;
 1-4 May 4, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran
 1-5 Affairs & Border Security; May 15, 2017, reported favorably by the
 1-6 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 15, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			

1-16 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-17 WHEREAS, The Purple Heart is a combat decoration awarded to
 1-18 members of the United States armed forces who are wounded by an
 1-19 instrument of war in the hands of the enemy or presented to the next
 1-20 of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds
 1-21 received in action; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Originally established by General George Washington
 1-23 during the Revolutionary War, the Purple Heart was revived by means
 1-24 of a presidential executive order on February 22, 1932, the 200th
 1-25 anniversary of President Washington's birth, out of respect for his
 1-26 military achievements; the criteria were announced by the War
 1-27 Department on that date in General Order No. 3; and

1-28 WHEREAS, Texas is home to 1.5 million veterans, representing
 1-29 5 percent of the nation's total veteran population; the state has 30
 1-30 Purple Heart cities, 4 Purple Heart counties, and 9 Purple Heart
 1-31 universities, which have all committed to recognizing veterans and
 1-32 honoring their commitments to veterans services; in addition, Texas
 1-33 is home to Belton New Tech High at Waskow, the first high school in
 1-34 the nation to earn a Purple Heart School designation, and to Purple
 1-35 Heart Elementary School in El Paso; and

1-36 WHEREAS, Numerous Texas agencies provide services to benefit
 1-37 former members of the military, including the Texas Veterans
 1-38 Commission, Texas Veterans' Land Board, Office of the Adjutant
 1-39 General, Texas Health and Human Services Commission, State Bar of
 1-40 Texas, Department of State Health Services, Texas Workforce
 1-41 Commission, Texas Workforce Investment Council, Texas Higher
 1-42 Education Coordinating Board, Texas Correctional Office on
 1-43 Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments, Texas Commission on
 1-44 Jail Standards, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs,
 1-45 and Texas Department of Agriculture; and

1-46 WHEREAS, The State of Texas is dedicated to improving the
 1-47 lives of its veterans with the highest standard of services, and it
 1-48 acknowledges the enormous sacrifices made by recipients of the
 1-49 Purple Heart; now, therefore, be it

1-50 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-51 hereby recognize Texas as a Purple Heart State and encourage
 1-52 agencies and government bodies at all levels to serve veterans with
 1-53 the same degree of devotion demonstrated by members of the armed
 1-54 forces in their service to our state and nation; and, be it further

1-55 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature hereby designate
 1-56 February 22 as Purple Heart Day; and, be it further

1-57 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section
 1-58 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
 1-59 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
 1-60 passed by the legislature.

1-61 * * * * *