

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The heroic military service of Richard Thomas Rinche  
2 was recognized by Alaniz-Valentine Chapter 598 of the Military  
3 Order of the Purple Heart at a ceremony aboard the USS *Lexington* in  
4 Corpus Christi on February 28, 2017; and

5           WHEREAS, One of our nation's highest military commendations,  
6 the Purple Heart is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who  
7 have been wounded or killed in combat; the Military Order of the  
8 Purple Heart is a veterans organization founded in 1932 that draws  
9 its membership from individuals who have received the medal; and

10           WHEREAS, Purple Heart recipient Richard Thomas Rinche served  
11 his nation in Vietnam as a member of the U.S. Army, and he was  
12 wounded in action on May 14, 1969; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Rinche was one of 16 living Purple Heart  
14 recipients who were recognized at the ceremony in Corpus Christi,  
15 along with two others who lost their lives in the line of duty;  
16 among those paying tribute to the honorees were Brigadier General  
17 James Mobley, Vietnam veteran J. R. Pena, and the color guard of the  
18 W. B. Ray High School Naval Junior ROTC; and

19           WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt of gratitude to  
20 Richard Thomas Rinche for putting himself in harm's way to defend  
21 our freedom, and his selfless efforts are a source of inspiration  
22 for all who know him; now, therefore, be it

23           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
24 Legislature hereby honor Richard Thomas Rinche on the occasion of

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1 his recognition by Alaniz-Valentine Chapter 598 of the Military  
2 Order of the Purple Heart and commend him for his sacrifice in  
3 behalf of our nation; and, be it further

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

Herrero

H.R. No. 1147

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1147 was adopted by the House on April 6, 2017, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House