

By: Price

H.R. No. 2256

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For well over a century, Americans have set aside
2 Memorial Day as a time to honor those members of its military forces
3 who have given their lives in service to the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, This observance was introduced after the Civil War
5 as a means of paying tribute to those who had died on both sides of
6 the conflict; originally called Decoration Day for the practice of
7 adorning the graves of soldiers with flowers once a year, the
8 holiday came to be known as Memorial Day, a day to honor all of the
9 country's fallen; though it was celebrated on May 30 for a number of
10 decades, it has been observed on the final Monday in May since the
11 early 1970s; and

12 WHEREAS, In communities across the nation, veterans and their
13 fellow citizens gather in cemeteries and other public places to pay
14 tribute to the armed forces personnel who died protecting our
15 liberty; "Taps," the haunting bugle call customarily performed at
16 military funerals and memorials since the Civil War, is played
17 during these ceremonies, and in accordance with tradition, the
18 United States flag is lowered to half staff early in the day before
19 being raised again at noon; and

20 WHEREAS, The most well-known observance of Memorial Day
21 occurs in Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown
22 Soldier, where the remains of unidentified Americans from World War
23 I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War are interred;
24 the president of the United States, accompanied by honor guards

1 from all branches of the armed services, traditionally lays a
2 wreath at the tomb, and a bugler offers a final salute by playing
3 "Taps"; and

4 WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to those men and
5 women who made the ultimate sacrifice in behalf of the peace and
6 stability of our nation, and it is a privilege to join with citizens
7 across the country in paying homage to the courage, commitment, and
8 patriotism of its military personnel; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize Memorial Day 2017 in solemn
11 commemoration of those who have died in service to our nation.