

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 818

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Michael E. Thornton for his distinguished service to his country and for his steadfast support of military veterans; and

WHEREAS, Michael Thornton enlisted in the United States Navy in 1967; after basic training, he was selected for specialized training in basic underwater demolition as part of the navy's elite SEAL forces; and

WHEREAS, Between 1968 and 1973, Petty Officer Thornton served several tours of duty in the Republic of Vietnam and Thailand; he was the recipient of numerous awards during his wartime service, and he was bestowed the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic rescue of fellow Navy SEAL and superior officer Lieutenant Tom Norris during his final tour in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, Lieutenant Thornton received his commission as a United States Navy ensign, and he went on to serve at the Little Creek Amphibious Base in Norfolk, Virginia; in April of 1990, he reported as Bravo Company commander to coordinate a rapid response deployment in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm; he retired from military service in 1992, after 25 years of outstanding service to his country; and

WHEREAS, On June 8, 2017, at a special event in Dallas, Mr. Thornton is introducing the book that details the mission and the courageous rescue of Lieutenant Norris; proceeds from the event will benefit the Michael E. Thornton Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides immediate financial relief to active and nonactive military members and their families and supports veterans as they work to transition to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Michael Thornton is a revered citizen who continues to work diligently on behalf of his fellow veterans, and he is indeed deserving of recognition for his patriotism and the extraordinary courage he demonstrated throughout his military career; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend Michael E. Thornton on his selfless service to the nation and extend to him best wishes in all his future endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Campbell

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on May 19, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate