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By:  Springer H.C.R. No. 101

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The valiant military service of Gary Michael Rose is being saluted as part of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville; and

WHEREAS, Established in 2001, Gainesville's Medal of Honor Host City Program acknowledges the heroism and sacrifice of individuals who have earned the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor; each year, local citizens join together to fund travel costs and other expenses to bring medal recipients to the city for a special series of events; and

WHEREAS, Gary Michael Rose was a sergeant in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War; a medic, he served with a company-sized exploitation force, the 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces; from September 11 to 14, 1970, his company was continuously engaged by a well-armed and much larger hostile force; repeatedly exposed to heavy fire while treating the wounded, he was injured himself when a B-40 rocket landed just meters away; nevertheless, he carried on, rendering aid and trying to assist during a helicopter rescue attempt that had to be aborted under an unrelenting assault; and

WHEREAS, For two days, Sergeant Rose continued to brave enemy fire to help the wounded; when the extraction helicopters arrived, he loaded injured comrades, moved others awaiting evacuation, and assisted in keeping the hostile force at bay; aboard the final helicopter, as the enemy closed in, he saved the life of the door gunner; he was injured again when the chopper crashed, but he pulled others from the burning wreckage and administered aid until another helicopter arrived; and

WHEREAS, Demonstrating extraordinary courage in the line of duty, Gary Michael Rose fulfilled the highest ideals of the United States armed forces, and he has earned the lasting admiration of a grateful nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby pay tribute to Gary Michael Rose on the occasion of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville and commend him for his exemplary service in the defense of our nation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Rose as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.