

By: Springer

H.C.R. No. 98

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The valiant military service of Donald E. Ballard is  
2 being saluted as part of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend  
3 in Gainesville; and

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

10 WHEREAS, A member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War,  
11 Hospital Corpsman Second Class Ballard risked his life without  
12 hesitation to render aid to his comrades; during a North Vietnamese  
13 ambush, he moved through enemy fire to tend to a wounded marine; as  
14 he and his fellow marines transported the injured man to safety, a  
15 concealed enemy soldier threw a hand grenade; HC2c Ballard shouted  
16 a warning and threw himself on the grenade to protect his comrades  
17 from the blast; fortunately, it failed to detonate, and he was able  
18 to resume treating casualties; and

19 WHEREAS, Demonstrating extraordinary courage in the line of  
20 duty, Donald Ballard fulfilled the highest ideals of the United  
21 States armed forces, and he has earned the lasting admiration of a  
22 grateful nation; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas  
24 hereby pay tribute to Donald E. Ballard on the occasion of the 2019

1 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville and commend him for  
2 his exemplary service in the defense of our nation; and, be it  
3 further

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