

By: Toth

H.R. No. 244

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Former marine Chad Robichaux demonstrated  
2 remarkable courage and compassion by scouting escape routes from  
3 Afghanistan and assisting with evacuation efforts during the  
4 American withdrawal from the country in August 2021; and

5           WHEREAS, A veteran of the Force Reconnaissance special  
6 operations unit of the U.S. Marine Corps, Mr. Robichaux served  
7 eight deployments in Afghanistan as a marine and as a Department of  
8 Defense contractor with a Joint Special Operations Command task  
9 force; he is also a founder of the Mighty Oaks Foundation, a  
10 faith-based veteran service organization; and

11           WHEREAS, In the chaos of the withdrawal, many members of the  
12 U.S. military and the private sector labored tirelessly to evacuate  
13 American citizens as well as Afghans who held green cards or were  
14 applicants for special immigration visas, all of whom were at risk  
15 for brutal retaliation by the Taliban; Mr. Robichaux and the Mighty  
16 Oaks Foundation joined with The Independence Fund to create a  
17 nongovernmental organization called Save Our Allies, and over the  
18 course of 10 days, a task force of 12 former special operations  
19 veterans evacuated 12,000 people from the airport in Kabul; and

20           WHEREAS, Mr. Robichaux and another member of his team, U.S.  
21 Marine Staff Sergeant Dennis Price, subsequently risked their lives  
22 by scouting more than 90 miles of extremely rugged and mountainous  
23 terrain along the border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan to  
24 facilitate additional evacuation efforts; for 10 days, the two men

1 reconnoitered routes and tested river crossings while avoiding the  
2 Taliban and patrols of the Russian KGB and the Tajik and Chinese  
3 militaries; they were fired on by snipers, nearly captured or  
4 killed on several occasions, and swam freezing rivers to establish  
5 crossing points; in the end, they were forced to flee across the  
6 border themselves to a safe house in Dushanbe, the capital city of  
7 Tajikistan; and

8         WHEREAS, Through his leadership, skill, and tremendous  
9 bravery, Chad Robichaux helped rescue thousands of people whose  
10 lives were in great danger, and his exceptional achievements are  
11 indeed deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

12         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
13 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commend Chad Robichaux for  
14 his selfless heroism in Afghanistan and extend to him sincere best  
15 wishes for the future; and, be it further

16         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for Mr. Robichaux as an expression of high regard by the  
18 Texas House of Representatives.