

By: Raymond

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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Every Memorial Day, millions of citizens across
2 Texas and the nation gather to remember those heroic men and women
3 in uniform who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our
4 country; and

5 WHEREAS, Originally known as Decoration Day for the practice
6 of decorating the graves of soldiers with flowers once a year, this
7 holiday began after the Civil War as a remembrance of those who had
8 died in the war; celebrated on May 30 in subsequent decades, the
9 holiday came to be known as Memorial Day, a day to honor all of the
10 country's fallen, in all of its wars; since the early 1970s, the day
11 has been observed on the last Monday in May; and

12 WHEREAS, The nation's most solemn Memorial Day ceremony
13 occurs in Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown
14 Soldier, where the remains of unidentified Americans from World War
15 I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War are interred in
16 a marble monument and in the adjacent plaza; accompanied by honor
17 guards from all branches of the military, the president of the
18 United States traditionally lays a wreath at the tomb, and the
19 ceremony is further solemnized by the sounding of "Taps," the
20 haunting bugle call that has been performed at military funerals
21 and memorials since the Civil War; and

22 WHEREAS, At the same time, in cities large and small across
23 the nation, veterans and their fellow citizens gather in cemeteries
24 and other public places to remember fallen comrades and to pay

1 tribute to those who died to protect our liberty and our republic;
2 these ceremonies are also graced by the stirring echoes of "Taps,"
3 and by tradition, the United States flag is briskly raised to full
4 staff at the beginning of the day and then lowered slowly to half
5 staff, where it remains until noon, when it is raised to full staff
6 again; and

7 WHEREAS, The toll of freedom is high; in the years since the
8 founding of our republic, more than one million American military
9 personnel have died in U.S. wars, and each year, on Memorial Day,
10 Americans gather to pay tribute to those courageous men and women
11 who, in the words of President Abraham Lincoln, gave the last full
12 measure of devotion; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize Memorial Day 2021 in solemn
15 commemoration of all those who have died in the service of our
16 nation.