HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established to honor gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state or federal military forces, and through his courageous actions in Vietnam, Sergeant Alfredo "Freddy" Gonzalez distinguished himself as a worthy recipient of this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, Born May 23, 1946, in Edinburg and a graduate of Edinburg High School, Sergeant Gonzalez enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in May 1965; after his first tour of duty in Vietnam, he was chosen to train new marines for guerilla warfare; and

WHEREAS, A few months later, Sergeant Gonzalez learned of an ambush in which men who had served under him had been killed; impelled by a strong sense of duty to his fellow marines and to his country, he volunteered for a second tour in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, When, at the end of January 1968, North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops launched the massive Tet Offensive, Sergeant Gonzalez and his platoon were ordered to Hue to relieve the pressure on that city; en route to Hue, the platoon's convoy was hit by heavy fire on several occasions; during one such encounter, Sergeant Gonzalez saw an injured marine lying in the road ahead and ran through enemy fire to carry the man to cover, receiving fragmentation wounds in the rescue; and

WHEREAS, With the column halted by withering fire from a fortified machine-gun bunker, Sergeant Gonzalez proceeded to guide his men to a protective dike; he then moved out onto a road being
raked by the gun and destroyed the bunker with hand grenades; later, 
on February 3, Sergeant Gonzalez was seriously wounded but 
continued to refuse medical treatment and to lead his men in their 
attack; and

WHEREAS, During fighting in Hue on February 4, his platoon of 
some 35 troops was again pinned down by a ferocious barrage; telling 
his unit to stay behind shelter, Sergeant Gonzalez moved forward 
aggressively with hand grenades and small antitank rockets, firing 
numerous rounds against enemy emplacements; and

WHEREAS, Entering a church, where the North Vietnamese were 
heavily fortified, he succeeded in suppressing virtually all of 
their fire; before the last of it could be silenced, however, he was 
mortally wounded; and

WHEREAS, Because he succeeded in destroying so many North 
Vietnamese positions, Sergeant Gonzalez was credited with saving 
the lives of the men in his platoon; the following year, in 
consequence of his extraordinary and selfless action, he was 
posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, becoming the only marine 
in combat during the Tet Offensive to receive that award; and

WHEREAS, For those with whom he served, the heroism displayed 
by Sergeant Gonzalez was completely in character; "it seemed like 
he was everywhere all the time," one remembered; "he was always 
there in the front, never in the back . . . he was always there for 
us"; and

WHEREAS, Among the awards subsequently conferred on Sergeant 
Gonzalez were three Purple Hearts, four Presidential Unit 
Citations, and a Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National
Defense Medal, and Cold War Certificate; in addition, he was the
posthumous recipient of two South Vietnamese decorations—the
Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with gold palm and star and the Vietnam
Service Medal with four bronze stars; in 1996, the U.S. Navy
commissioned a new guided missile-destroyer in his honor; and

WHEREAS, Through his unhesitating selflessness and his
unfaltering devotion to duty, honor, and his country, Sergeant
Alfredo Gonzalez embodied the highest ideals of the armed service,
and he most assuredly merits the award of this state's supreme
military medal; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
hereby posthumously confer the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor on
Sergeant Alfredo "Freddy" Gonzalez in recognition of his heroic
service and express to his family its deepest appreciation on
behalf of all his fellow Texans; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
prepared for the family of Sergeant Gonzalez as an expression of
highest regard by the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Pena
Craddick
Allen
Alonzo
Anchia
Anderson
Aycopk
Bailey
Berman
Bohac
Bolton
Bonne
Branch
Brown of Kaufman
Brown of Brazos
Burnam
Callegari
Castro
Chavez
Chisum
Christian
Cohen
Coleman
Cook of Navarro
Cook of Colorado
Corte
Crabb
Creighton
Crownover
Darby
Davis of Harris
Davis of Dallas
Delisi
Deshotel
Driver
Dukes
Dunnam
Dutton
Eiland
Eissler
Elkins
England
Escobar
Farabee
Farias
Farrar
Flores
Flyn
Frost
Gallego
Garcia
Gattis
Geren
Giddings
Gonzales
Gonzalez Tourelles
Goolsby
Guilen
Haggerty
Hamilton
Hancock
Harcadstle
Harless
Harper-Brown
Hartnett
Heflin
Hernandez
Herrero
Hilderbran
Hill
Hochberg
Hodge
Homer
Hopson
Howard of Fort Bend
Howard of Travis
Hughes
Isett
Jackson
Jones
Keffer
King of Parker
King of Taylor
King of Zavala
Kolkhorst
Krusee
Kuempel
Latham
Laubenberg
Leibowitz
Lucio III
Macias
Madden
Mallory Caraway
Martinez
Martinez Fischer
McCall
McClendon
McReynolds
Menendez
Merritt
Miles
Miller
Moreno
Morrison
Mowery
Murphy
Naishtat
Noriega
O'Day
Oliveira
Olivo
Orr
Ortiz, Jr.
Otto
Parker
Patrick
Paxton
Pena
Phillips
Pickett
Piersen
Pitts
Puente
Quintanilla
Raymond
Riddle
Ritter
Rodriguez
Rose
Smith of Tarrant
Smith of Harris
Smithe
Solomons
Strama
Straus
Swinford
Talton
Taylor
Thompson
Truitt
Turner
Van Arsdale
Vaught
Veasey
Villareal
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West
Woolley
Zedler
Zerwas
Averitt  
Brimer  
Carona  
Deuell  
Duncan  
Ellis  
Eltife  
Estes  
Fraser  
Gallegos  
Harris  

Hegar  
Hinojosa  
Jackson  
Janek  
Lucio  
Nelson  
Nichols  
Ogden  
Patrick  
Seliger  

Shapiro  
Shapleigh  
Uresti  
Van de Putte  
Watson  
Wentworth  
West  
Whitmire  
Williams  
Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate
H.C.R. No. 121

David Dewhurst
President of the Senate

Jon Lieber
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 121 was adopted by the House on May 23, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Robert Heising
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 121 was adopted by the Senate on May 26, 2007, by a viva-voce vote.

Ayanna Howard
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 15 JUN 07

Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
8 PM O'CLOCK
JUN 15 2007

Roger Williams
Secretary of State