By: _____ H.C.R. No. 112

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established by the 58th Texas Legislature to recognize gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state military forces, and through his courageous actions during battle in World War II, Captain Robert Thomas Edlin has proven himself worthy of receiving this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, A native of Evansville, Indiana, Captain Edlin was born on May 6, 1922, into a large, close-knit family that embraced the highest of American values and ideals; and

WHEREAS, Captain Edlin joined the Indiana National Guard at the age of 17 in 1939, the year before the first peacetime draft in the nation's history was instituted; he was promoted to staff sergeant in April 1941, to second lieutenant in September 1942, and to first lieutenant in May 1943; after volunteering for the Rangers in December 1943, Lieutenant Edlin was made a platoon leader in Company A, Second Ranger Battalion; and

WHEREAS, On D-Day, June 6, 1944, Lieutenant Edlin helped to lead Company A onto Omaha Beach, receiving debilitating wounds in both legs; evacuated to England the following day, he rejoined his platoon in France on July 15, 1944; and

WHEREAS, During the late summer of 1944, the Second Ranger Battalion was assigned to support the American advance in Britanny; on September 9, preceding a dawn attack on the antiaircraft Graf Spee, or Lochrist, battery near the French city of Brest,

Lieutenant Edlin was ordered to lead a four-man reconnaissance patrol to spot enemy pillboxes and snipers and chart a way through the minefield surrounding the garrison, the capture of which was critical in the effort to retake the port city; and

WHEREAS, The patrol navigated a large minefield and encountered a German pillbox, where Lieutenant Edlin captured the officer in charge; Lieutenant Edlin then forced the officer to escort him and his interpreter to the commanding officer of the Graf Spee battery; and

WHEREAS, On entering the commander's office, Lieutenant Edlin took a grenade, pulled the pin, and held the grenade to the commander's stomach, forcing him to surrender the fort, along with four 280-mm guns, supporting small-arms positions, pillboxes, and approximately 800 enemy soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Recommended by Lieutenant Colonel James Earl Rudder, commander of the Second Ranger Battalion, to receive the Medal of Honor, Lieutenant Edlin refused to accept the medal in order to avoid being reassigned to a unit within the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Edlin was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his extraordinary heroism in battle, and in 1995 he was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame; a book recounting his remarkable military service was published in 2002; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional officer returned to Indiana after the war and served in the Indiana National Guard from 1948 to 1954, holding the rank of captain; in 1963, acting on the recommendation of his former commanding officer, James Rudder, who was then

president of Texas A&M University, Captain Edlin moved to Corpus Christi; over the years, he has continued to serve his fellow citizens through his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Eagles Lodge, as well as through the operation of a successful family business known as the Edlin Auction House; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor is the highest commendation Texans can bestow for military service, and the outstanding valor and patriotism manifested by Captain Robert Edlin most assuredly merit the award of this state's supreme military distinction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby award the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Captain Robert Thomas Edlin in recognition of his heroic service and express to him deepest appreciation on behalf of all his fellow Texans; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature hereby respectfully request the Honorable Rick Perry, governor of the State of Texas, to confer the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor on Captain Edlin; and, be it further

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

ENROLLED

H.C.R. No. 112

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor was established by the 58th Texas Legislature to recognize gallant and intrepid service by a member of the state military forces, and through his courageous actions during battle in World War II, Captain Robert Thomas Edlin has proven himself worthy of receiving this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, A native of Evansville, Indiana, Captain Edlin was born on May 6, 1922, into a large, close-knit family that embraced the highest of American values and ideals; and

WHEREAS, Captain Edlin joined the Indiana National Guard at the age of 17 in 1939, the year before the first peacetime draft in the nation's history was instituted; he was promoted to staff sergeant in April 1941, to second lieutenant in September 1942, and to first lieutenant in May 1943; after volunteering for the Rangers in December 1943, Lieutenant Edlin was made a platoon leader in Company A, Second Ranger Battalion; and

WHEREAS, On D-Day, June 6, 1944, Lieutenant Edlin helped to lead Company A onto Omaha Beach, receiving debilitating wounds in both legs; evacuated to England the following day, he rejoined his platoon in France on July 15, 1944; and

WHEREAS, During the late summer of 1944, the Second Ranger Battalion was assigned to support the American advance in Britanny; on September 9, preceding a dawn attack on the antiaircraft Graf Spee, or Lochrist, battery near the French city of Brest,

Lieutenant Edlin was ordered to lead a four-man reconnaissance patrol to spot enemy pillboxes and snipers and chart a way through the minefield surrounding the garrison, the capture of which was critical in the effort to retake the port city; and

WHEREAS, The patrol navigated a large minefield and encountered a German pillbox, where Lieutenant Edlin captured the officer in charge; Lieutenant Edlin then forced the officer to escort him and his interpreter to the commanding officer of the Graf Spee battery; and

WHEREAS, On entering the commander's office, Lieutenant Edlin took a grenade, pulled the pin, and held the grenade to the commander's stomach, forcing him to surrender the fort, along with four 280-mm guns, supporting small-arms positions, pillboxes, and approximately 800 enemy soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Recommended by Lieutenant Colonel James Earl Rudder, commander of the Second Ranger Battalion, to receive the Medal of Honor, Lieutenant Edlin refused to accept the medal in order to avoid being reassigned to a unit within the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Edlin was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his extraordinary heroism in battle, and in 1995 he was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame; a book recounting his remarkable military service was published in 2002; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional officer returned to Indiana after the war and served in the Indiana National Guard from 1948 to 1954, holding the rank of captain; in 1963, acting on the recommendation of his former commanding officer, James Rudder, who was then

president of Texas A&M University, Captain Edlin moved to Corpus Christi; over the years, he has continued to serve his fellow citizens through his membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Eagles Lodge, as well as through the operation of a successful family business known as the Edlin Auction House; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor is the highest commendation Texans can bestow for military service, and the outstanding valor and patriotism manifested by Captain Robert Edlin most assuredly merit the award of this state's supreme military distinction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby award the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Captain Robert Thomas Edlin in recognition of his heroic service and express to him deepest appreciation on behalf of all his fellow Texans; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature hereby respectfully request the Honorable Rick Perry, governor of the State of Texas, to confer the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor on Captain Edlin; and, be it further

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

Corte

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 112 was adopted by the House on March 16, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 112 was adopted by the Senate on March 22, 2005, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

_____

Governor

EDITING: ADD ALL NAMES? _____Yes ✓ No

EXCEPT: _____

_____ _____

President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 112 was adopted by the House on
(1)

March 16, 2005, by a non-record vote.
(2)

_____

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 112 was adopted by the Senate on
March 22, 2005, by a viva-voce vote.
(3)

_____

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

_____

Date

_____

Governor

**** Preparation: CT49

H.C.R. No. 112 By Corte

Awarding the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to Captain Robert Thomas Edlin of Corpus Christi and requesting the governor to confer the award.

MAR 15 2005 Filed with the Chief Clerk

_____ Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

_____ Reported ____ favorably (as amended)
(as substituted)

_____ Sent to Committee on (Calendars)
(Local & Consent Calendars)

MAR 16 2005 Rules suspended to permit consideration

MAR 16 2005
_____ Read (~~comm. subst.~~), (~~amended~~) and adopted (~~failed~~) by a (~~rising vote~~) (non-record vote)
(~~record vote~~ of _____ ~~yeas~~, _____ ~~nays~~, _____ ~~present, not voting~~)

_____ Motion made to add all members names

_____ Engrossed

MAR 16 2005 Sent to Senate

Robert Haney
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

OTHER HOUSE ACTION:

MAR 16 2005 Received from the House

_____ Read first time and referred to Committee on _____

_____ Reported favorably _____

_____ Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read first time

MAR 22 2005 Laid before the Senate

MAR 22 2005
_____ Consideration ordered by (unanimous consent)
(_____ yeas, _____ nays)

MAR 22 2005 Read, _____, and adopted by (a viva voce vote)
(~~_____ yeas, _____ nays~~)

_____ Returned to the House

Patsy Spaw
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

OTHER SENATE ACTION:

MAR 2 3 2005 _____ Returned from the Senate (~~as substituted~~)
(~~with amendments~~)

_____ House concurred in Senate amendments by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ House refused to concur in Senate amendments and requested the appointment of a conference committee by a (non-record vote) (record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ House conferees appointed: _____, Chair; _____,

_____, _____, _____

_____ Senate granted House request. Senate conferees appointed: _____, Chair;

_____, _____, _____, _____

_____ Conference committee report adopted (rejected) by the House by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

_____ Conference committee report adopted (rejected) by the Senate by a (viva voce vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays)