

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
79R5454 MCK-F

S.B. 955
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Veteran Affairs & Military Installations
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Federal Cavalry Medal, created during World War II, is no longer awarded. Texas does not currently have a state award equivalent to the Purple Heart Medal, nor does the Texas National Guard have a state award for combat service. However, the adjutant general wishes to honor service in combat of the 124th Cavalry, Texas Army National Guard, by creating a Texas Cavalry Medal.

The Texas National Guard has set aside funds for the creation of military medals and awards. The creation of these new medals would honor those qualified individuals in the Texas National Guard for their service to their state and country.

As proposed, S.B. 955 creates a Texas Purple Heart Medal, a Texas Cavalry Medal for members of the Texas National Guard who have served as a member of the 124th Cavalry in a combat zone since September 11, 2001, and a service ribbon which recognizes service in combat.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority previously granted to the adjutant general is modified in SECTION 1 (Section 431.134, Government Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 431.134, Government Code to include that the adjutant general may adopt rules and regulations relating to the Texas Cavalry Medal, the Texas Combat Service Ribbon, and the Texas Purple Heart. Sets forth certain criteria for said awards.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2005.