

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.C.R. 31
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Administration
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 2007, a monument was erected on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol to honor those Texans who fought and died for their country in World War II. One of the largest and bloodiest battles waged during that war was the Battle of the Bulge, which took place in the Ardennes region of Europe in December of 1944 and January of 1945.

More than half a million United States soldiers fought in this pivotal battle, which turned back the last German counter-offensive of the war. It was won at a terrible price, as nearly 20,000 Americans were killed and another 50,000 were wounded.

Many of the soldiers at the Battle of the Bulge were from Texas, and their courage, tenacity, and sacrifice merit special recognition in the form of a monument on the grounds of the Capitol in close proximity to the existing World War II monument.

Under Chapter 443 (State Preservation Board), Government Code, and rules of the State Preservation Board, a portion of the Capitol grounds is available for the placement of memorials and monuments, subject to legislative approval, specified procedural requirements, the provision of funding from private donors, conformity to certain size and design limitations and parameters, and completion on a timely basis.

Members of the senate and house of representatives find a commemorative monument in honor of Texans who fought in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II to be a worthy addition to the Capitol grounds that will suitably honor those who fought in that great battle.

RESOLVED

That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas hereby authorize the State Preservation Board, subject to state law and rules of the board, to approve and permit the construction of a monument on the Capitol grounds to honor those Texan service members who fought and died in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.

That the Texas secretary of state forward an official copy of this resolution to the executive director of the State Preservation Board.