

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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C.S.S.C.R. 24
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Administration
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Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Combat operations have been ongoing for well over a decade in the Global War on Terror. Although the price to be paid was potentially high, Texas service members and their families volunteered and accepted the great risks. These service members deployed over and over again, many deploying eight or more times.

Our nation experienced 6,839 fallen heroes paying the ultimate price in these combat operations with 596 of these being Texans. Many more Texans have permanent physical injuries. Often overlooked is the price paid by their families. These service members' families suffered the unknown on a daily basis and their children lacked the love and guidance of the deployed parent. These spouses left behind will have to learn to deal with the permanent absence of their service member and their children will have to embrace life without the love and guidance of one parent.

Our Texas military service members and their families deserve timely recognition for their great sacrifices voluntarily provided after September 11th, in the form of a monument in proximity to the Capitol.

Under Chapter 443, Government Code, and rules of the State Preservation Board, a portion of the north Capitol grounds is available for new 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 House of Representatives and Senate find a commemorative structure in honor of Texans and their families who served during the Global War on Terror to be a worthy addition to the Capitol grounds to convey to visitors a sense of history and utmost respect for those who have seen combat and otherwise demonstrated patriotic commitment in our behalf.

This project will be funded through private dollars and will have no cost to the state.

RESOLVED

That the 84th 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 at the state Capitol Complex, at a site outside the historic Capitol grounds, honoring Texans who served during the Global War on Terror as part of the U.S. armed forces and their families.

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