

1-1 By: Seliger, Perry S.B. No. 488
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 9, 2015; February 10, 2015,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; March 2, 2015, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; March 2, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Campbell	X		
1-9	Burton	X		
1-10	Birdwell	X		
1-11	Garcia	X		
1-12	Hall	X		
1-13	Lucio	X		
1-14	Rodriguez	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the criteria for awarding the Texas Purple Heart Medal
1-18 to members of the armed forces wounded or killed at Fort Hood on
1-19 November 5, 2009.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 437.355(a), Government Code, is amended
1-22 to read as follows:

1-23 (a) The governor or adjutant general, if delegated the
1-24 authority, may adopt policies and regulations relating to awarding:

1-25 (1) the Texas Purple Heart Medal, which shall be
1-26 awarded to a service member who:

1-27 (A) ~~after~~ after September 11, 2001:

1-28 (i) ~~was~~ was inducted into federal service
1-29 from the Texas National Guard; and

1-30 (ii) ~~meets~~ meets the criteria for an award
1-31 of the federal Purple Heart Medal; or

1-32 (B) was wounded or killed at Fort Hood on
1-33 November 5, 2009;

1-34 (2) the Texas Superior Service Medal, which shall be
1-35 awarded to:

1-36 (A) a service member of the Texas military forces
1-37 who has:

1-38 (i) completed 30 or more years of honorable
1-39 state service or a combination of state and federal service; and

1-40 (ii) continually demonstrated superior
1-41 performance and service while assigned to key leadership positions
1-42 demanding responsibility; or

1-43 (B) a civilian who has contributed significant
1-44 service to the Texas military forces;

1-45 (3) the Lone Star Distinguished Service Medal, which
1-46 shall be awarded to a member of the military forces of this state,
1-47 another state, or the United States for exceptionally outstanding
1-48 achievement or service to this state in performance of a duty of
1-49 great responsibility while serving with the Texas military forces
1-50 for whom the department receives a letter of recommendation for
1-51 award of the Lone Star Distinguished Service Medal that:

1-52 (A) gives an account of the exceptional
1-53 achievement or service; and

1-54 (B) includes facts and photographs, and extracts
1-55 from official documents to support and amplify the facts;

1-56 (4) the Texas Outstanding Service Medal, which shall
1-57 be awarded to a service member of the military forces of this state,
1-58 another state, or the United States who has performed service in a
1-59 superior and clearly outstanding manner;

1-60 (5) the Texas Humanitarian Service Medal, which shall
1-61 be awarded to a service member who:

2-1 (A) does not meet the criteria for an award of the
 2-2 federal Humanitarian Service Medal;
 2-3 (B) is a member of the Texas military forces; and
 2-4 (C) while serving on state active duty or active
 2-5 duty under state authority in accordance with Title 32, United
 2-6 States Code, participates satisfactorily in defense support to a
 2-7 mission under civilian authority to protect life or property during
 2-8 or soon after a natural disaster or civil unrest in the state;
 2-9 (6) the Texas Homeland Defense Service Medal, which
 2-10 shall be awarded to a service member of the Texas military forces
 2-11 who served:
 2-12 (A) on or after September 11, 2001;
 2-13 (B) on state active duty or active duty under
 2-14 state authority in accordance with Title 32, United States Code;
 2-15 and
 2-16 (C) satisfactorily in defense support to a
 2-17 mission in the state under civilian authority;
 2-18 (7) the Federal Service Medal, which shall be awarded
 2-19 to a service member who was inducted into federal service from the
 2-20 Texas military forces between June 15, 1940, and January 1, 1946, or
 2-21 after June 1, 1950, if the service was for more than 90 days;
 2-22 (8) the Texas Combat Service Ribbon, which shall be
 2-23 awarded to a service member of the Texas National Guard who served,
 2-24 after September 11, 2001, in a hostile fire zone as designated by
 2-25 the United States secretary of defense;
 2-26 (9) the Texas Faithful Service Medal, which shall be
 2-27 awarded to a member of the Texas military forces who has completed
 2-28 five years of honorable service during which the service member has
 2-29 shown fidelity to duty, efficient service, and great loyalty to
 2-30 this state;
 2-31 (10) the Texas Medal of Merit, which shall be awarded
 2-32 to a member of the military forces of this state, another state, or
 2-33 the United States who performs outstanding service or attains
 2-34 extraordinary achievement in behalf of the state or United States;
 2-35 (11) the Texas State Guard Service Medal, which shall
 2-36 be awarded to a service member who completes three consecutive
 2-37 years of honorable service in the Texas State Guard during which the
 2-38 service member has shown fidelity to duty, efficient service, and
 2-39 great loyalty to this state;
 2-40 (12) the Texas Desert Shield/Desert Storm Campaign
 2-41 Medal, which shall be awarded to a service member who was inducted
 2-42 into federal service from the Texas National Guard after August 1,
 2-43 1990, in support of Operation Desert Shield or Operation Desert
 2-44 Storm, without regard to the place that the service member was
 2-45 deployed while serving on active federal military duty;
 2-46 (13) the Texas Iraqi Campaign Medal, which shall be
 2-47 awarded to a service member who was inducted into federal service
 2-48 from the Texas National Guard, without regard to the place that the
 2-49 service member was deployed while serving on active federal
 2-50 military duty, after:
 2-51 (A) March 19, 2003, in support of Operation Iraqi
 2-52 Freedom; or
 2-53 (B) August 31, 2010, in support of Operation New
 2-54 Dawn; and
 2-55 (14) the Texas Afghanistan Campaign Medal, which shall
 2-56 be awarded to a service member who was inducted into federal service
 2-57 from the Texas National Guard after October 6, 2001, in support of
 2-58 Operation Enduring Freedom, without regard to the place that the
 2-59 service member was deployed while serving on active federal
 2-60 military duty.
 2-61 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 2-62 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 2-63 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 2-64 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 2-65 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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