

Senate of Pennsylvania



703395

JUN 13 2003

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HARRISBURG, PA

In the Senate, May 6, 2003

Whereas, The United States Army has denied the Combat Medical Badge to personnel of the 91 MOS who were assigned to duty aboard helicopter ambulances (DUSTOFF); and

Whereas, From 1962 through 1973, 496,573 missions were flown by DUSTOFF and more than 900,000 casualties were safely evacuated; and

Whereas, DUSTOFF missions are more hazardous than other rotary-wing operations as proven by the aircraft loss rate versus insertion and extraction missions; and

Whereas, The bravery and the medical skills of the aeromedic functioning in the heat of hard combat has often meant the difference between survival and death; and

Whereas, Aeromedical personnel are able to triage and provide necessary emergency medical treatment en route to a definitive care facility, and many medics leave the helicopter to load multiple casualties, often under the intense enemy fire unarmed medevacs attract; and

Whereas, Selective expansion of the Combat Medical Badge award occurred in the Persian Gulf War when the United States Army Chief of Staff authorized it for medics assigned to armor and ground cavalry units; and

Whereas, The conduct of the Persian Gulf War was characterized by armor and ground cavalry operations, while airmobile operations dominated the Vietnam War from logistics to combat to medevac; therefore be it

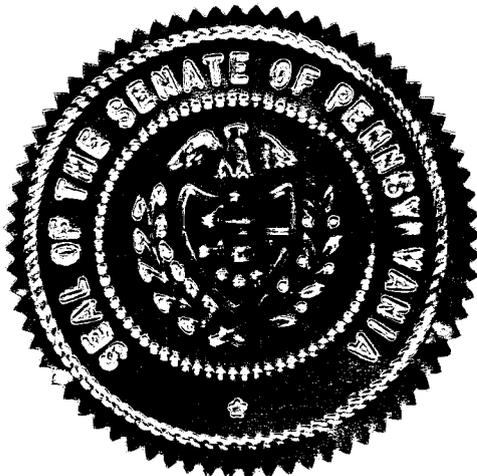
Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania memorialize the President and Congress of the United States to enact legislation requiring the retroactive award of the Combat Medical Badge to all Vietnam personnel serving in the 91 MOS who were assigned to helicopter ambulances; and be it further

Resolved, That no inference of any diminution of the prestige of this award be assigned to the lawful and realistic expansion of eligibility; and be it further

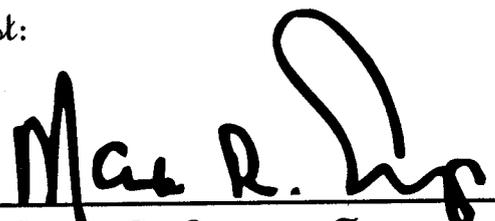
Resolved, That initial presentations of the Combat Medical Badge be received by survivors of aeromedical personnel whose names appear on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President, presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 77, introduced by Senators John N. Wozniak, Don White, Richard A. Kasunic, Robert C. Jubelirer, Jake Corman, Charles D. Lemmond, Allen G. Kukovich, Jane M. Earll, J. Barry Stout, Sean F. Logan, Jerry L. Punt, Joe Conti, Robert J. Mellow, Jack Wagner, Jay Costa, Jr., Joe Scarnati, Jane Clare Orie, Charles W. Dent, Edwin B. Erickson, Allyson Y. Schwartz, Gerald J. LaValle, Christine M. Tartaglione, Michael A. O'Pake, Mary Jo White, Constance H. Williams, Gibson E. Armstrong, Jeffrey E. Piccola, Noah W. Wenger, Vincent J. Hughes, Anthony H. Williams, Edward W. Helfrick, Vincent J. Fumo, Stewart J. Greenleaf, Roger A. Madigan, Robert J. Thompson, Robert M. Tomlinson, James J. Rhoades, Jim Ferlo, David J. Brightbill, Robert D. Robbins, Michael J. Stack, Dominic F. Pileggi, Raphael J. Musto, Shirley M. Kitchen, Mike Waugh, Robert C. Wonderling, Lisa M. Boscola, John C. Rafferty, Jr., and Harold F. Mowery, Jr., and adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the sixth day of May in the year of our Lord, two thousand three.



Attest:


Mark R. Corrigan, Secretary