

By: Representative J. Edwards

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO COMMEND THE PATRIOT GUARD RIDERS OF ARKANSAS FOR THEIR WORK IN HONORING FALLEN HEROES AND THE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES OF FALLEN HEROES AND FOR THEIR WORK WITH DISABLED VETERANS.

Subtitle

TO COMMEND THE PATRIOT GUARD RIDERS OF ARKANSAS FOR THEIR WORK IN HONORING FALLEN HEROES AND THE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES OF FALLEN HEROES AND FOR THEIR WORK WITH DISABLED VETERANS.

WHEREAS, the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas is part of a national group organized in 2005 by members of American Legion Post No. 136 in Mulvane, Kansas, with the original purpose of shielding families from those who would intrude on a funeral or memorial service of a fallen soldier; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas is to honor fallen heroes and their families and communities by attending memorial services and funerals, to provide a moral shield as invited guests of a grieving family, and to protect family members and other invited guests from interruptions created by protestors; and

WHEREAS, the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas respect and obey all laws in order to support the families they serve; and

WHEREAS, members of the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas come from all



walks of life, united by the organization's honorable mission; and

WHEREAS, members of the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas not only gather for funerals but also participate in ceremonies and events to welcome troops home or to give them support when they leave; and

WHEREAS, the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas have a program through which members work with other agencies to assist wounded veterans and their families, including visiting United States Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and helping to repair or refurbish homes of injured veterans; and

WHEREAS, while many members of the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas are motorcycle riders, the organization welcomes riders, non-riders, hawks, and doves and non-rider members also work to accomplish the organization's mission by providing water for the riders, handing out flags, and organizing the details of missions; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas is exemplified by the organization's unwavering respect for those who risk their lives for the country's freedom and security, and insistence that respect be paid to those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for their country,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives proudly commends the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas for their commitment and dedication to providing grieving families with lawful protection from interruptions by protestors during funeral or memorial services for fallen soldiers and for their work with injured veterans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon its adoption the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall provide the Patriot Guard Riders of Arkansas with a copy of this resolution.