

League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE REVIEW OF THE RECORD OF SFC JORGE OTERO BARRETO

WHEREAS, Sgt First Class (SFC) Jorge Otero Barreto was born in Vega Baja Puerto Rico on April 7, 1937; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto joined the U.S. Army and was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the Army' Air Assault School in 1960; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto served five tours in Southeast Asia Vietnam from 1961-1970; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto served with the 101st Airborne, the 25th Infantry, the 82nd Airborne and the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto participated in 200 combat missions; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto was awarded 38 military decorations making him the "most decorated soldier in the Vietnam War"; and

WHEREAS, his decorations include three Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars with Valor, four Army Commendation Medals, five Purple Hearts, and five Air Medals; and

WHEREAS, he also received the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, The Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Army Superior Unit Award, Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, and the Vietnam Civil Action Unit Citation; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto also earned The Combat Infantry Badge, The Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Army Aviation Badge; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto has served a Post Commander of American Legion Post 14; and

WHEREAS, SFC Otero Barreto has funded a Homeless Veterans Transitional Home; and

WHEREAS, SFC Jorge Otero Barreto is uniquely qualified given his dedicated service, leadership and demonstrated patriotism and love for his country;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC recommends that the Department of the Army review the record of this exemplary soldier to determine if SFC Jorge Otero Barreto should be recommended for the Medal of Honor; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the appropriate Committees of the Congress for said consideration; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Army; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that LULAC forward a copy of this resolution to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Leadership Institute; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that suitable copies of this resolution be forwarded to the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Catholic War Veterans and the American GI Forum for their consideration; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that LULAC forward this resolution to the White House.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2017 LULAC National Convention on July 8, 2017.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.

LULAC National President

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