

Bill No. CS/HB 3065

Amendment No. ____

Senate

CHAMBER ACTION

House

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

.
. .
. .
. .
. .
. .

Senator Latvala moved the following amendment:

Senate Amendment

On page 3, between lines 9 and 10,

insert:

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is in the process of constructing a second state veterans' nursing home in Land O' Lakes, Pasco County, Florida, and

WHEREAS, a committee chaired by Representative Mike Fasano and committee members Senator Jack Latvala, Hillsborough County Commissioner Chris Hart, Pasco County Commissioner Ed Collins, Hernando County Commissioner Ray Lossing, Pasco County Veterans' Service Officer Fred Harrop, and Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs General Counsel Ron Frankel considered nominations from the public for naming the new state veterans' nursing home, and

WHEREAS, the name of First Lieutenant Baldomero Lopez, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, was placed in nomination and unanimously selected by the committee as the

Bill No. CS/HB 3065

Amendment No. ____

1 recommended name of the new state veterans' nursing home, and
2 WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Baldomero Lopez, U.S. Marine
3 Corps, grew up in Tampa, Florida, and graduated from
4 Hillsborough High School, and

5 WHEREAS, after graduation, Baldomero Lopez entered the
6 U.S. Navy and was selected for an appointment at the U.S.
7 Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where he graduated in
8 the upper third of his class, and was commissioned in the U.S.
9 Marine Corps, and

10 WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Baldomero Lopez was awarded
11 the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic deeds on
12 September 15, 1950, the day on which he gave his life for his
13 country, and

14 WHEREAS, in action against enemy aggressor forces
15 during the Inchon Invasion in Korea on September 15, 1950,
16 First Lieutenant Lopez was leading his platoon against enemy
17 beach defenses, and

18 WHEREAS, exposing himself to hostile fire, he moved
19 forward alongside a bunker and prepared to throw a hand
20 grenade into the next pillbox, whose fire was pinning down his
21 sector of the beach, and

22 WHEREAS, taken under fire by an enemy automatic weapon
23 and hit in the right shoulder and chest as he lifted his arm
24 to throw the grenade, he fell backward and dropped the deadly
25 missile, and

26 WHEREAS, after a moment, he turned and dragged his body
27 forward in an effort to retrieve the grenade and throw it, and

28 WHEREAS, in critical condition from pain and loss of
29 blood, and unable to grasp the hand grenade firmly enough to
30 hurl it, he chose to sacrifice himself, rather than endanger
31 the lives of his men, and with a sweeping motion of his

Bill No. CS/HB 3065

Amendment No. ____

1 wounded right arm, cradled the grenade under him and absorbed
2 the full impact of the explosion, and

3 WHEREAS, for his exceptional courage, fortitude, and
4 devotion to duty, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of
5 Honor,

6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31