HR 9137 2005

House Resolution

A resolution honoring United States Army Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith.

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith, well-known among his fellow soldiers as a strong, exceptional leader who "led from the front," served his country with great valor and honor as a respected member of Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, of the United States Army, and

WHEREAS, Sgt. 1st Class Smith was a Florida resident, having been raised in Tampa, and his wife and children currently reside in Holiday, Florida, and

WHEREAS, during battle on April 4, 2003, as Sgt. 1st Class Smith and his fellow soldiers, although significantly outnumbered, fought with great determination to protect the lives and positions of other soldiers in the area, Sgt. 1st Class Smith repeatedly exposed himself to overwhelming enemy fire until he was fatally wounded, and

WHEREAS, for actions above and beyond the call of duty, Sgt. 1st Class Smith has been posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in recognition of his heroic actions on April 4, 2003, and

WHEREAS, Sgt. 1st Class Smith's sacrificial conduct epitomizes the extraordinary character and selfless nature of our nation's fighting forces, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

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That the House of Representatives recognizes the late United States Army Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith with untold gratitude, admiration, and honor for the ultimate sacrifice he made on behalf of his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of United States Army Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.