

House Resolution Number

Whereas, the United States Congress has a long tradition of recognizing the extraordinary acts of courage and bravery that our military personnel have shown in service to their country; and

Whereas, on October 19, 1950, as a member of Company 1, Medical Company, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment, Pfc. Richard C. Wilson was accompanying his unit during a reconnaissance in force through the hilly country near Opari, Korea when his unit was ambushed and came under a barrage of mortar, automatic-weapons, and small-arms fire. The company suffered a large number of casualties while fighting its way out of the ambush. Even as the commander of the unit ordered a withdrawal, Pfc. Wilson continued to expose himself to hostile fire and assisted wounded men to safety until he assured himself that none were left behind; and

Whereas, after his company pulled back, Pfc. Wilson learned that a comrade previously thought dead had been seen moving and attempting to crawl to safety. Despite the protests of his comrades, an unarmed Pfc. Wilson returned to the battlefield to search for his comrade. On October 21, 1950, a patrol found Pfc. Wilson lying dead beside the man he returned to aid, with multiple gunshot wounds to his body received while trying to shield and administer aid to his wounded comrade; and

Whereas, on June 21, 1951, the widow of Pfc. Richard C. Wilson accepted the posthumous awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for military valor, to Pfc. Wilson for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action"; and

Whereas, in addition to the posthumous receipt of the Congressional Medal of Honor, an elementary school in Fort Benning, Georgia, a main medical dispensary at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and a movie theatre at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, have all been named after Pfc. Richard C. Wilson and a painting commissioned by his unit hangs in the Medical Museum at Fort Sam Houston in Texas; and

Whereas, with the blessing of his brother, Ronald R. Wilson, and his mother, Alice M. Wilson, Cape Girardeau veterans and the management and employees of the United States Postal Service Processing & Distribution Facility in Cape Girardeau are also petitioning the United States Congress to rename the processing facility after Richard C. Wilson to ensure that

the tale of his bravery is passed to future generations; and

Whereas, while the postal facility employs many Cape Girardeau veterans, the management and employees of the facility have also shown their support for veterans of all conflicts, including a 1992 Memorial Day dedication of a Veterans' Monument at the entrance of the facility. Therefore, it would be only fitting to name the Cape Girardeau postal facility after a distinguished veteran of the community such as Richard C. Wilson:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, urge the United States Congress to enact legislation to rename the U.S. Postal Service Processing & Distribution Facility at 475 Kell Farm Drive in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, after Korean War veteran Richard C. Wilson, Private First Class, U.S. Army, Co. 1, Medical Company, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation.

Offered by _____
Representative Jason Crowell
District No. 158

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted _____, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker