

SENATE RESOLUTION
8713

By Senator O'Ban

WHEREAS, Medal of Honor and Purple Heart recipient, Staff Sergeant Ty Michael Carter, began his distinguished military career by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in October 1998; and

WHEREAS, In January 2008, Sergeant Ty Michael Carter continued his military service by enlisting in the United States Army as a cavalry scout, receiving his training at Fort Knox, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in May 2009, Sergeant Carter spent a year stationed in Afghanistan as a soldier in the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, On October 3, 2009, while serving in the Kamdesh district of the Nuristan Province, Sergeant Carter was forced to think on his feet while responding to a barrage of enemy fire, making difficult decisions while under attack during the Battle of Kamdesh; and

WHEREAS, During the attack, more than 300 enemy combatants opened fire, prompting Sergeant Carter to move 100 meters across open ground from his station to a Humvee located at the south battle position, then turn around and run back to retrieve machine gun oil and ammunition and — once more — traverse the distance to gain access to additional supplies; and

WHEREAS, Despite sustaining wounds and facing incalculable odds against hundreds of enemy fighters, Sergeant Carter returned fire using his excellent marksmanship skills to force out the individuals who continued to attack Sergeant Carter and his squadron; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Carter skillfully maneuvered under the camp's perimeter fence to retrieve additional weapons and ammunition to bring back to his station, then traveled an additional 30 meters to help treat the wounds of a fallen soldier and carry him back to the Humvee. During the remainder of the battle, which lasted late into the evening, Sergeant Carter remained calm through the extreme stress of discovering the bodies of fallen soldiers, while searching for a radio in order to signal for help, and finally returning to the Humvee to seek cover; and

WHEREAS, With the assistance of a fellow soldier, Sergeant Carter carried a wounded soldier a 100-meter distance to a first-aid station and helped to keep his comrade alive until reinforcements arrived to assist in evacuation efforts; and

WHEREAS, As a result of his bravery, Sergeant Carter was awarded the Medal of Honor on August 26, 2013, and was instated into the Pentagon Hall of Heroes on August 27th; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Carter was stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, in his home state of Washington, in October 2010, becoming assigned to the position of Stryker gunner with the 8th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. Sergeant Carter received a second deployment to Afghanistan in October 2012, before returning to Joint Base Lewis-McChord where he continues to serve today; and

WHEREAS, In addition to displays of heroism and gallantry in the United States Army, Sergeant Carter has worked with dedication and a profound sense of hope toward providing further understanding of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and is working toward greater public understanding of the condition in honor of those who fought bravely in the military and face PTSD-related issues every day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate offer its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Medal of Honor recipient, Staff Sergeant Ty Michael Carter, who bravely risked his life and fought with unwavering gallantry and fortitude, and give him thanks for his continued service and dedication to the United States of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to United States Army Staff Sergeant Ty Michael Carter.