## HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS EDWARD BARUT, RECIPIENT OF THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL AND COMBAT ACTION BADGE, FOR HIS ULTIMATE ACT OF SERVICE AND VALOR IN SERVING OUR NATION.

WHEREAS, the richness and vitality of our nation are due to the invaluable contributions and meritorious acts of service and sacrifice by caring citizens to the community; and

WHEREAS, our nation's greatness lies in men and women of valor and strength like Army Private First Class Edward Barut who, as part of the United States Armed Forces, was deployed with the United States coalition forces to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom missions in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery, 41st Fires Brigade, Army Private First Class Edward Barut, was stationed out of Fort Hood, Texas, and was deployed to Afghanistan, where he and others in the United States Armed Forces stood poised and ready to serve the interests of our nation; and

WHEREAS, in retaliation for the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks against the United States, Army Private First Class Edward Barut answered our nation's call to duty and action against Taliban and Al Qaeda forces; and

WHEREAS, Army Private First Class Edward Barut, son of Filomena Bungcayao and Edwin Barut, brother to Michelle Cacho, and a 2004 Waipahu High School graduate, is one of Hawaii's sons and daughters who voluntarily enlisted in the military and have been called to serve in many of the most dangerous areas of the world, including Iraq and Afghanistan, where they face opposition forces daily; and

WHEREAS, on a routine North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Training Mission in Afghanistan, Army Private First Class Edward Barut, as part of a dozen service members, traveled through the perilous Tangi Valley during a routine mission; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2011, Army Private First Class Edward Barut's convoy was ambushed twice and insurgents launched a brutal 45-minute barrage of rocket-propelled grenades, small arms fire, and improvised explosive devices at them; and

WHEREAS, these twelve service members successfully defended themselves against the brutal attack, risking their own lives to protect the innocent and uphold the freedoms of democracy; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2011, Army Private First Class Edward Barut and his fellow soldiers were presented with Purple Heart Medals and Combat Action Badges in recognition of their bravery and acts of sacrifice, highest distinction of service, and unwavering commitment to the American ideals of life, liberty, and freedom; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that this body hereby expresses its deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Army Private First Class Edward Barut for his exemplary military service, and extends to him its warmest congratulations for being awarded the Purple Heart Medal and Combat Action Badge for serving our country with the highest honor, distinction, and courage.

OFFERED BY:

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