

By: Rosenthal

H.R. No. 1759

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Justin Elliott has been
2 appointed as the commander of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds for
3 the 2022-2023 demonstration season; and

4 WHEREAS, The official air demonstration team of the U.S. Air
5 Force, the Thunderbirds unit was first established in 1953, and its
6 crack jet pilots have flown at air shows across the nation and
7 around the world; over the past 68 years, they have performed
8 spectacular aerial maneuvers before millions of people; and

9 WHEREAS, A native of Jersey Village, Texas, Justin Elliott
10 majored in mechanical engineering at Yale University, where he was
11 a member of the ROTC; after earning his bachelor's degree in 2005,
12 he was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, and he is a
13 2012 graduate of the USAF Weapons School and a 2015 graduate of the
14 USAF Test Pilot School; in the course of his military career, he has
15 logged more than 2,000 hours of flight time and over 255 hours as a
16 combat pilot; and

17 WHEREAS, This skilled aviator's air force career has included
18 service as an F-15E operational test pilot at Nellis Air Force Base
19 and as an experimental fighter test pilot at Eglin AFB; he has also
20 held the post of director of operations for the 59th Test and
21 Evaluation Squadron at Nellis, and in January 2020 he became the
22 squadron's commander; and

23 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Justin Elliott has greatly
24 benefited the mission of the U.S. Air Force, and he may reflect with

1 pride on his many achievements as he takes on the challenges and
2 opportunities of his exciting new assignment; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate Lieutenant Colonel Justin Elliott
5 on his appointment as the commander of the U.S. Air Force
6 Thunderbirds and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
7 success in his important work; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for Lieutenant Colonel Elliott as an expression of high
10 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.