

By: Price

H.R. No. 2054

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The dedicated service and immeasurable sacrifice of
2 our nation's military personnel are being recognized on May 20,
3 2023, as Americans observe this country's annual Armed Forces Day;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Before 1950, separate days had been set aside to
6 honor the branches of the armed forces individually; the
7 establishment of a single observance followed the combining in 1947
8 of the Departments of War and Navy into one entity, the National
9 Military Establishment, which two years later became known as the
10 Department of Defense; and

11 WHEREAS, Members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force,
12 Coast Guard, and Space Force are justly proud of the heroic deeds
13 forged by those branches and by their ongoing contributions to
14 maintain the security and liberty of American citizens both at home
15 and abroad; and

16 WHEREAS, The U.S. Army was established on June 14, 1775, when
17 the Second Continental Congress authorized the formation of 10
18 companies of riflemen; from the American Revolution to operations
19 in Afghanistan and Iraq, the army has furnished the majority of
20 American ground troops when the country has taken up arms; today,
21 this service is composed of a number of branches, including
22 Infantry, Military Intelligence, Aviation, the Corps of Engineers,
23 and Special Forces, and such specialized branches as the Army
24 Medical Department Corps, Chaplain Corps, and Judge Advocate

1 General's Corps; and

2 WHEREAS, On October 13, 1775, the Second Continental Congress
3 called for the fitting out of two warships, thereby founding the
4 Continental Navy; although disbanded following the conclusion of
5 the Revolutionary War, this service was reestablished with the
6 creation of the Department of the Navy on April 30, 1798, and today,
7 naval personnel ensure the defense of the nation by sea and by air
8 and give seaborne support to the other military forces; and

9 WHEREAS, A month after authorizing the procurement and
10 dispatching of the navy's first ships, the Continental Congress
11 passed a resolution, on November 10, 1775, calling for the raising
12 of two marine battalions; the Marine Corps disbanded, like the
13 navy, following the War of Independence, but it was reestablished
14 on July 11, 1798; today, the Marine Corps conducts military
15 operations on land, air, and sea, following faithfully in the
16 footsteps of those who so valiantly fought and died in Belleau Wood
17 and Afghanistan; and

18 WHEREAS, The U.S. Air Force, which became a separate branch
19 within the Department of Defense on September 18, 1947, had its
20 genesis in the 1907 creation of an aeronautical division within the
21 U.S. Army Signal Corps; military aviation subsequently achieved
22 widespread recognition during World War I, when planes proved their
23 effectiveness in reconnaissance and bombing missions, and air power
24 became a crucial factor in World War II, during which time the U.S.
25 Army Air Forces emerged as the most powerful air force in the world;
26 today's air force defends the country in the realms of air, space,
27 and cyberspace; and

1 WHEREAS, Now part of the Department of Homeland Security, the
2 U.S. Coast Guard has assumed many duties throughout its history,
3 from protecting against pirates to intercepting contraband,
4 conducting search and rescue operations, responding to oil spills,
5 and licensing and certifying all U.S. maritime personnel; its
6 wide-ranging wartime service has included escort and patrol duty
7 and assisting amphibious landings; and

8 WHEREAS, The U.S. Space Force was established on December 20,
9 2019, when the National Defense Authorization Act was signed into
10 law, thereby creating the first new branch of the armed services in
11 73 years; composed of the three field components of the Space
12 Operations Command, the Space Systems Command, and the Space
13 Training and Readiness Command, the space force trains and equips
14 its service members, called Guardians, to conduct global space
15 operations in a number of areas; chief among them is the critical
16 infrastructure that is increasingly dependent on satellites for
17 communication, navigation, meteorology, and intelligence; and

18 WHEREAS, Together with members of the reserve forces, the
19 Army National Guard, and the Air National Guard, America's
20 active-duty servicemen and servicewomen are committed to
21 maintaining the nation's security and are prepared to do their
22 utmost in defense of their country and the cause of freedom; now,
23 therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
25 Legislature hereby recognize May 20, 2023, as Armed Forces Day and
26 extend to all members of the nation's military profound
27 appreciation for their steadfast and courageous efforts in our

1 country's behalf.