

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 247

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux on the occasion of its annual Box Car pilgrimage on March 8, 2003; and

WHEREAS, Popularly known as the Forty & Eight, the group was organized in 1920 as the fun and honor society of the American Legion; membership is granted by invitation only and is in recognition of service to the American Legion or its programs; and

WHEREAS, The fraternal organization took its name from the small French railroad boxcars that transported men and horses to and from the front during World War I; the sides of these boxcars were stenciled with the capacity of each, holding either forty men or eight horses; the Country of France made a gift of the Box Car to the State of Texas in March of 1949; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Forty & Eight strive to serve their fellowman by supporting a number of different programs; the group operates a child welfare program and raises scholarship funds for the descendants of service men and women who were prisoners of war or are considered missing in action; in addition, it supports youth sports, nurses training, the *Carville Star*, Americanism, Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service, the National Box Car Association, and the National Disaster Relief Program; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Forty & Eight are rightfully proud of their service to their country and the annual pilgrimage to the Box Car provides them the opportunity to recall the

organization's history and to reflect on its purpose and achievements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend these true patriots, who work selflessly for the betterment of many deserving citizens, and extend best wishes to them for a memorable event; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the organization as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Van de Putte
Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 26, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate

Member, Texas Senate