

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 655

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas encourages citizens across our state and nation to pay tribute to the brave men and women who fought at the Battle of the Bulge during World War II; and

WHEREAS, The turning point in World War II began June 6, 1944, when allied troops succeeded in bringing 16 army divisions into occupied Europe in just five days; after the allied landing and the battles in Normandy, the allied armies began their liberation tour of the continent; first France was liberated and then Belgium; and

WHEREAS, The allied forces were stopped in the Ardennes before the border by German counterattacks that stabilized the front along their defense line; with allied interests divided on tactics, allied forces were required to wait for new directions and came to rest in the Ardennes; and

WHEREAS, During this quiet period, the Germans prepared an enormous counteroffensive, but strong allied defenses in the North and South only allowed the Germans to forge a large bulge in allied lines; and

WHEREAS, The battle began on December 16, 1944, and ended with an allied victory on January 28, 1945; 8,447 Americans were killed, 46,170 were wounded, and 20,905 were missing or imprisoned; the British reported 200 killed, 239 wounded, and 969 missing or imprisoned; 10,749 German soldiers were killed, 34,439 were wounded, and 32,487 were missing or imprisoned; and

WHEREAS, Our nation will be eternally grateful to the many men from our country who fought at the Battle of the Bulge to defend the world from tyranny and oppression; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby join citizens of this state and nation in paying tribute to the brave soldiers who fought on behalf of our country in the Battle of the Bulge and honor the memory of those men who lost their lives; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as an expression of gratitude from the Texas Senate to those who fought, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of those who died at the Battle of the Bulge.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 30, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate