

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 657**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Air Force News Agency, the United States Air Force's official news and information organization, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary and to honor the men and women who have served the nation and the City of San Antonio since its inception; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency has served as the primary news and information organization for the United States Air Force since the agency was organized on June 1, 1978; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency currently has more than 480 men and women stationed around the world in 28 locations gathering news, information, and images about the United States military missions; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency is capable of providing news, information, and images in the widest array of formats to the American public and the world, including print, television, radio, Internet, and telephone formats; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency provides a critical service to senior leaders and commanders of the United States Department of Defense and the United States Air Force by providing news, information, and images to service members wherever they are stationed around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency helps ensure the morale and readiness of the men and women of the United States military components around the world by covering and reporting on the critical services they provide to their nation, to their family members, and to the American public, thereby improving morale and readiness; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency has recently contributed to Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, During Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, the Air Force News Agency's Air Force Broadcasting Service delivered continuous radio and television news and information to coalition forces through the American Forces Desert Network; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency's Air Force News Service provides news, information, and images about the men and women of the United States Air Force through its official web site, Air Force Link, to more than 2.8 million Internet users every week, biweekly television news programs to more than 800 television stations and cable systems, and print news stories and images to more than 30,000 subscribers every weekday; and

**WHEREAS**, The Air Force News Agency's Army and Air Force Hometown News Service annually provides more than 800,000 news releases to 12,000 daily and weekly hometown newspapers of active, Reserve and Guard service members and distributes more than 13,500 holiday greetings to 1,085 television stations and 2,906 radio stations each holiday season; and

**WHEREAS**, The men and women of the Air Force News Agency have served the state of Texas as honorable community citizens by their voluntary service to Habitat for Humanity, the San Antonio Children's Shelter, the annual Combined Federal Campaign, the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure to support breast cancer research, Adopt-A-Highway, local blood drives, and numerous other community events; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the United States Air Force's Air Force News Agency on the occasion of its 25th anniversary and express appreciation to the men and women who have served while assigned to that agency; and, be it further

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

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 22, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate