

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Lieutenant General Bruce Carlson has been named  
2 honorary balloonmeister for the 2005 Great Texas Balloon Race, and  
3 his selection for this tribute is in keeping with this year's  
4 patriotic theme, "A Salute to the Military"; and

5           WHEREAS, General Carlson currently serves as commander of the  
6 8th Air Force, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, and Joint  
7 Functional Component Commander for Space and Global Strike,  
8 U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska; and

9           WHEREAS, A native of Hibbing, Minnesota, and a skilled and  
10 experienced pilot, General Carlson oversees the war-fighting  
11 capability and the operational readiness of the "Mighty Eighth's"  
12 B-2 Spirit and B-52 Stratofortress bombers, as well as several  
13 other planes piloted by members of the 8th Air Force; and

14           WHEREAS, General Carlson is an accomplished graduate of the  
15 University of Minnesota's Air Force ROTC program; he was  
16 commissioned in 1971 and is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Fighter  
17 Weapons School; he also holds master of arts degrees from Webster  
18 University and the Naval War College; and

19           WHEREAS, The Great Texas Balloon Race takes place on July  
20 8-10, 2005, at the East Texas Regional Airport in Longview; the race  
21 was created in 1978 by world-record-holding hot air balloon pilot  
22 Dr. Bill Bussey, D.D.S., and Longview Mall managers Frankie Parson  
23 Riggins and Mary LeTourneau as a promotional event to mark the grand  
24 opening of Longview Mall, and through the years it has grown to

1 become the premier hot air balloon race in Texas; and

2 WHEREAS, General Carlson joins a long list of distinguished  
3 individuals who have served as honorary balloonmeister at the Great  
4 Texas Balloon Race, and his participation in this unique event will  
5 undoubtedly be an unforgettable experience for this respected  
6 military leader; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
8 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby recognize Lieutenant  
9 General Bruce Carlson for his service as honorary balloonmeister at  
10 the 2005 Great Texas Balloon Race and commend him for his  
11 distinguished service to this nation; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for General Carlson as an expression of high regard by the  
14 Texas House of Representatives.

Merritt

H.R. No. 284

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 284 was adopted by the House on July 19, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House