

1-1 By: Patrick S.R. No. 941  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed May 1, 2007; May 7, 2007, read first  
1-3 time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and Military  
1-4 Installations; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 SENATE RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, From 1945 to 1991, the world witnessed a military,  
1-8 economic, and ideological confrontation known as the Cold War;  
1-9 waged most prominently by the United States and the Soviet Union,  
1-10 the struggle involved almost every nation on earth to some degree  
1-11 and had a profound impact on the course of world history over the  
1-12 latter half of the 20th century; and

1-13 WHEREAS, Although the Cold War never erupted into a  
1-14 full-scale armed conflict between the world's superpowers, it gave  
1-15 impetus to a number of localized hot wars, as well as to a massive,  
1-16 long-term arms race; and

1-17 WHEREAS, Throughout the Cold War, the State of Texas played a  
1-18 significant role in this country's military preparedness by  
1-19 contributing personnel to the armed forces, serving as the site of  
1-20 important military facilities, and providing material support by  
1-21 way of private industry; and

1-22 WHEREAS, Tens of thousands of Texans served in the military  
1-23 during the course of the Cold War, and many made the ultimate  
1-24 sacrifice; the loss of Texans in Korea from 1950 to 1957 numbered  
1-25 1,719, and in Vietnam, 3,415; and

1-26 WHEREAS, The state currently has 16 military installations  
1-27 that figured notably in the country's defense system during the  
1-28 period of the Cold War; moreover, Texas was home to Nike and Atlas  
1-29 Ballistic Missile silos, as well as to Strategic Air Command units  
1-30 at Biggs, Carswell, Sheppard, Dyess, Amarillo, and Bergstrom Air  
1-31 Force Bases; other air force bases located in the state during that  
1-32 time included Brooks, Goodfellow, Kelly, Lackland, Laredo,  
1-33 Laughlin, Randolph, Reese, and Webb; and

1-34 WHEREAS, All 15 of those air force facilities constituted  
1-35 first-strike targets for the Soviet military; secondary targets in  
1-36 Texas included Beeville, Corpus Christi, Kingsville,  
1-37 Sherman-Denison, Texarkana, Fort Bliss, Fort Hood, and the Houston  
1-38 petrochemical complex; and

1-39 WHEREAS, Many industrial enterprises in Texas made vital  
1-40 contributions during the Cold War years; the state's oil industry  
1-41 had a major role in supplying the Strategic Petroleum Reserve,  
1-42 while a number of key defense contractors were either based in Texas  
1-43 or had large Texas operations; among such companies were Texas  
1-44 Instruments, Lockheed, EDS, Bell Helicopter, and Textron; and

1-45 WHEREAS, One dimension of the Cold War involved a race for  
1-46 leadership in space exploration; crucial to American efforts in  
1-47 this arena was the Johnson Space Center in Houston, the National  
1-48 Aeronautics and Space Administration headquarters for manned  
1-49 spaceflight; and

1-50 WHEREAS, Eight successive American presidents grappled with  
1-51 the challenges of the Cold War; two of these--Dwight D. Eisenhower  
1-52 and Lyndon B. Johnson--were born in Texas and led the nation during  
1-53 the Korean War and Vietnam War, respectively; and

1-54 WHEREAS, Military veterans of the Cold War have continued to  
1-55 contribute to this country as private citizens and as public  
1-56 servants; a number of them have been elected to leadership posts at  
1-57 both the state and national levels; and

1-58 WHEREAS, It is essential that the history of the Cold War  
1-59 decades be preserved, for the events of that time touched the lives  
1-60 of millions of people and helped to set the stage for the 21st  
1-61 century; in reflecting on that long and difficult confrontation, it  
1-62 is also fitting that tribute be paid to the men and women of the  
1-63 United States armed forces, who served selflessly and heroically in  
1-64 that epic struggle; now, therefore, be it

2-1           RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th  
2-2 Legislature, hereby recognize May 1, 2007, as Cold War Victory Day  
2-3 and extend to all Cold War veterans of the American military sincere  
2-4 appreciation for their exemplary service; and, be it further

2-5           RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor  
2-6 of Cold War veterans.

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