

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1046

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the residents of the City of Killeen in celebrating the 125th anniversary of the founding of their city; and

WHEREAS, Killeen came into existence when the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railway bought 360 acres of land located in the rolling Grand Prairie country of western Bell County and platted a seventy-block town on the site; the town was named after the assistant general manager of the railway, Frank P. Killeen, and the first train arrived on May 15, 1882; and

WHEREAS, With cotton as its principal crop, Killeen prospered as an agricultural center for the next 60 years; by 1940, the city had grown from 300 residents to more than 1,200; and

WHEREAS, The demographics of Killeen were changed forever when the United States Army established Camp Hood on the town's borders as a military training base at the onset of World War II; the population of Killeen grew rapidly in the next few years, and housing was so scarce that some newcomers paid to sleep in henhouses, and nearly 1,000 workers lived in a tent city; and

WHEREAS, Camp Hood was established as a permanent base in 1950 and its name was changed to Fort Hood; the prosperity and culture of the city became closely linked to the military; and

WHEREAS, Killeen continued to grow, and by 1955, the infrastructure of Killeen was strained by growing demands on its limited facilities; the city drew up a master plan to meet a multiplicity of needs, including street additions and improvements, parks and recreation centers, new schools and hospitals, and more water and sewage facilities; and

WHEREAS, Killeen today has a diverse population of approximately 100,000 residents; the city is a center for commerce and tourism and is home to the Mayborn Planetarium and the Space Theater on the campus of Central Texas College; Fort Hood also attracts visitors to its two museums, the 1st Cavalry Division Museum and the 4th Infantry Division Museum, which showcase such items as cavalry sabers, assault helicopters, and tanks; and

WHEREAS, Killeen's anniversary is an appropriate time to recognize the city's rich history and the many contributions its citizens have made to our state and to the military families of Fort Hood; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby congratulate the City of Killeen on the 125th anniversary of its founding and extend best wishes for the future to its residents; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the residents of Killeen as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Fraser

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 15, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate