

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1083

WHEREAS, On November 2, 2003, the United States Army began its Rest and Recuperation program at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on behalf of the brave men and women who are serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan; the program was established as a means of greeting the troops as they return home for their two-week stay and to encourage support for our nation's deployed military personnel; and

WHEREAS, In June of 2004, the airport and the North Texas Commission formally organized the Welcome Home a Hero volunteer campaign, which has grown into one of the largest and most respected ongoing community initiatives in North Texas and in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport dedicated a new United Service Organizations facility on Memorial Day Weekend of 2004, an oasis of care and comfort for thousands of soldiers, veterans, and families; in addition, hundreds of airport employees and airport ambassadors work with troops and their families on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, The Welcome Home a Hero campaign has been served by thousands of committed volunteers from business organizations, churches, chambers of commerce, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, and Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, The campaign has been recognized with the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, one of the most prestigious community service awards in the country; it also has received hundreds of messages of gratitude from our brave men and women in uniform who appreciate the patriotism and hospitality of the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and the North Texas Commission; and

WHEREAS, The 500,000th soldier to participate in the program will be honored and recognized at the airport during the third anniversary festivities of Welcome Home a Hero on June 12 of this year; for the festivities, the residents of North Texas and the airport community are gathering together to recognize, salute, and support our troops and to pay tribute to them for their sacrifices and those of their friends and families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the members of the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport Board of Directors, the airport staff, the North Texas Commission, and the thousands of volunteers for their dedication to the invaluable Welcome Home a Hero campaign and extend congratulations to the United States Army on the success of its Rest and Recuperation program; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of the third anniversary of the Welcome Home a Hero campaign and in appreciation of our brave men and women in uniform and their commitment to duty and their country.

Harris

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 18, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate