## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Family, friends, and fellow veterans will forever 2 treasure their memories of retired Brigadier General William Corinth Bacon of Comfort, who died on March 8, 2008, at the age of 3 88; and 4 5 WHEREAS, The son of Dr. W. T. Bacon and Sally Maxie Bacon, William Bacon gave up opportunities to play professional baseball 6 7 and to attend West Point in order to join the United States Army Flying Cadet Program in September 1940; after training as a pilot at 8 9 Kelly Field in Texas and receiving his commission as a second lieutenant, he was assigned to the 15th Observation Squadron at 10 11 Fort Sill, Oklahoma; in 1942, he joined the 344th Squadron of the 12 98th Bomb Group and began training for combat in World War II; and 13 WHEREAS, This brave officer saw action in the Middle East and 14 Europe, flying 40 combat missions as a bomber pilot and earning acclaim for his skill and tenacity in the cockpit; on one mission, 15 16 he lost the hydraulic systems and rudder control on his aircraft but kept his plane aloft and shot down an enemy fighter on his way back 17 to base, where he landed safely with no loss of life to his crew; and 18 WHEREAS, Following the war, General Bacon attended the Air 19 20 War College in 1947 and then became commander of the 6th Bombardment 21 Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base; he subsequently served as chief of the plans and programs branch for the director of plans and 22 23 operations at Air Force headquarters; throughout the 1950s, he held a number of positions in Asia and the United States and returned to 24

- 1 Davis-Monthan AFB in 1958 as commander of the 303rd Bombardment
- 2 Wing; in the 1960s, he was the commander of the 12th and the 22nd
- 3 Strategic Aerospace Divisions; and
- 4 WHEREAS, During the course of his military career, General
- 5 Bacon's gallantry under fire and his dedication to duty earned him
- 6 an impressive list of commendations, including the Silver Star, the
- 7 Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf
- 8 cluster, the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army
- 9 Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal; and
- 10 WHEREAS, After his retirement from military service, General
- 11 Bacon raised cattle for 30 years on his Arrow-B Ranch in Welfare; he
- 12 became a licensed veterinarian and an expert horseman as well as a
- 13 welcome and generous neighbor to many in the Hill Country; and
- WHEREAS, In the 1990s, General Bacon founded the Hill Country
- 15 Veterans Council in order to keep the Kerrville Veterans
- 16 Administration Hospital from being closed, and he served as the
- 17 organization's president for three years; the council worked
- 18 tirelessly to achieve their goal and ultimately were successful in
- 19 keeping the facility open; and
- 20 WHEREAS, General Bill Bacon was both a tough military
- 21 commander and a warmhearted friend, known for his acts of kindness
- 22 and his salty sense of humor; his dedication to his country, his
- 23 community, and to those who served in the U.S. armed forces commands
- 24 deep respect, and the admirable example of his life will long be
- 25 remembered; now, therefore, be it
- 26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
- 27 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Brigadier General

- 1 William Corinth Bacon and offer sincere condolences to the members
- 2 of his family: to his wife, Helen Bacon; to his daughters, Kay
- 3 Aubrey and Kari Bowers; to his sons, William S. Bacon and David G.
- 4 Bacon; to his grandchildren, Renee Pifer Farris, Margret Bacon
- 5 Hunter, William Bacon, Clint Bowers, and Lindsey Bowers Williams;
- 6 to his great-grandchildren, Lexis Pifer Farris, Abigail Bacon, Beau
- 7 Bacon, Shelby Lipe, Rachel Hunter, and Rylee Nicole Williams; and
- 8 to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 10 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 11 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William
- 12 Corinth Bacon.

Hilderbran

Straus Gattis Menendez Allen Geren Merritt Giddings Miklos Alonzo Alvarado Gonzales Miller of Comal Anchia Gonzalez Toureilles Miller of Erath Guillen Anderson Moody Gutierrez Aycock Morrison Berman Hamilton Naishtat Hancock Oliveira Bohac Bolton Hardcastle Olivo Bonnen Harless Orr Branch Harper-Brown Ortiz, Jr. Brown of Kaufman Hartnett Otto Brown of Brazos Heflin Parker Burnam Hernandez Patrick Paxton Button Herrero Hilderbran Callegari Peña Castro Hochberg Phillips Chavez Hodge Pickett Chisum Homer Pierson Christian Pitts Hopson Howard of Fort Bend Quintanilla Cohen Coleman Howard of Travis Raymond Cook Hughes Riddle Corte Hunter Rios Ybarra Ritter Crabb Isett Rodriguez Craddick Jackson Creighton Jones Rose Keffer Sheffield Crownover Darby Kent Shelton King of Parker Smith of Tarrant Davis of Harris King of Taylor Smith of Harris Davis of Dallas King of Zavala Deshotel Smithee Driver Kleinschmidt Solomons Kolkhorst Dukes Strama Dunnam Kuempel Swinford Laubenberg Dutton Taylor Legler Thibaut Edwards Eiland Leibowitz Thompson Eissler Lewis Truitt Elkins Lucio III Turner of Tarrant England Madden Turner of Harris Vaught Farabee Maldonado Mallory Caraway Veasey Farias Farrar Marquez Villarreal

Martinez

McClendon

McReynolds

McCall

Martinez Fischer

Fletcher

Flores

Flynn

Frost

Gallego

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Walle

Weber

Woolley

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 37 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 26, 2009.

Chief Clerk of the House