

By: Averitt

S.C.R. No. 26

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is an honor for the Legislature of the State of
3 Texas to pay tribute to the City of Ipswich, Queensland, Australia,
4 on the occasion of the 40th-Anniversary Memorial Service the city
5 is hosting for the crew of the USS *Frank E. Evans*; and

6 WHEREAS, The memorial service is taking place on June 3,
7 2009, and is being held in remembrance of the 74 United States
8 sailors who lost their lives in the catastrophic collision of the
9 USS *Frank E. Evans* and the HMAS *Melbourne* on June 3, 1969; and

10 WHEREAS, The destroyer USS *Frank E. Evans* was built in 1944
11 and had a gallant service record that included participation in
12 World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War; its collision
13 with the HMAS *Melbourne* occurred in the dark of the morning in the
14 South China Sea off the coast of Vietnam during a multinational show
15 of force to the Viet Cong; and

16 WHEREAS, The USS *Frank E. Evans* Association, Incorporated, is
17 based in Granbury, Texas, and consists of former sailors, friends,
18 and families who have bonded together to remember past shipmates
19 and honor their service to our nation; the association is actively
20 engaged in an ongoing effort to pay tribute to those who were aboard
21 the USS *Frank E. Evans*, as the names of the crew have not been placed
22 on the Vietnam Wall due to the accident's location; this year, the
23 association is privileged to be hosted by Ipswich for its
24 40th-Anniversary Memorial Service in remembrance of the lost

1 sailors; and

2 WHEREAS, For more than two centuries, the navies of the
3 United States and Australia have served their countries and have
4 battled to preserve the liberties their citizens hold dear, and it
5 is fitting to honor those aboard the USS *Frank E. Evans* who gave
6 their lives while carrying out a wartime multinational show of
7 support on behalf of their country and its ideals; now, therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby extend gratitude to the City of Ipswich for hosting a
11 40th-Anniversary Memorial Service in honor of the crew of the USS
12 *Frank E. Evans* and join with its citizens in remembering all who
13 have fallen in the defense of freedom; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared as an
15 expression of appreciation to the City of Ipswich from the Texas
16 Legislature.