By: Averitt S.C.R. No. 26

1 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,

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

7

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
- 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.