

By: Legler

H.R. No. 433

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Distinguished representatives from the Ellington
2 Field Joint Reserve Base are visiting the State Capitol on February
3 16, 2011; and

4 WHEREAS, Constructed in 1917 to prepare military air
5 personnel during the First World War, Ellington Field later served
6 as the training base for thousands of pilots, navigators, and
7 bombardiers during World War II; the base became a municipal
8 airport in 1984 but continued to provide support for military
9 reserve and guard units, as well as NASA; and

10 WHEREAS, The military side of this mixed-use airport was
11 renamed Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in 2010 to reflect its
12 emergence in joint total force structure; it hosts commands from
13 all five U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Homeland
14 Security military services, as well as those of interagency
15 missions and the NASA Johnson Space Center Aviation Department;
16 equipped with state-of-the-art training technology, it readies for
17 deployment Army, Navy, and Marine Reserve units, along with Army
18 and Air National Guard personnel; and

19 WHEREAS, The Ellington Field base protects the only region in
20 the country that holds all 17 national asset categories identified
21 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as prime potential
22 targets for global terrorism; moreover, it is home to the 147th
23 Reconnaissance Wing Mission, whose transition from F-16s to
24 unmanned aerial systems reflects a trend that is transforming the

1 U.S. Air Force and Air Guard; and

2 WHEREAS, Since 2008, the number of active, reserve, and guard
3 troops stationed at Ellington Field has increased from 1,500 to
4 more than 6,000; the base is in the midst of a \$100 million
5 expansion, its largest in more than three decades; additions
6 include a second Armed Forces Reserve Center and a
7 40,000-square-foot Battle Command Training Center, and a new Coast
8 Guard headquarters facility is scheduled for completion in 2012;
9 recognizing the positive impact of the base on surrounding
10 communities, civic and business leaders work together to support
11 its development through the Ellington Field Task Force, which is
12 led by the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership; and

13 WHEREAS, Ellington Field has long made important
14 contributions to the Houston-area economy, and Ellington Field
15 Joint Reserve Base plays a vital role in defending the security of
16 our state and our nation; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
18 Legislature hereby recognize February 16, 2011, as Ellington Field
19 Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best
20 wishes for a memorable and productive day in Austin.