

By: Legler

H.R. No. 784

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Ellington Field plays an important role in the  
2 Houston-area economy while contributing to the defense of our  
3 nation; and

4           WHEREAS, Ellington Field was constructed in 1917 and served  
5 as a training base for military air personnel during World War I and  
6 World War II and as a navigator training school in the 1950s; NASA  
7 became a tenant there in 1962, and in 1984, Ellington Field was  
8 taken over by the City of Houston; today, it continues to provide  
9 support for military reserve and guard units even as it serves as a  
10 base for a variety of commercial operations; and

11           WHEREAS, Featuring commands from all five Department of  
12 Defense and Department of Homeland Security military services,  
13 Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base has grown to include more than  
14 6,000 active, reserve, and guard members; it is home to the 147th  
15 Reconnaissance Wing, which is at the forefront of the trend toward  
16 unmanned aircraft that is transforming the Air Force and Air Guard;  
17 and

18           WHEREAS, The region served by the Ellington Field JRB is  
19 vital to national security and the only one in the country  
20 containing all 17 national asset categories identified by the  
21 Department of Homeland Security as prime potential targets for  
22 global terrorism; a \$100 million expansion now in progress is  
23 vastly increasing the defense capabilities of the base and will  
24 have an enormous economic impact on surrounding communities, with

1 estimates ranging to nearly \$700 million; and

2 WHEREAS, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base provides a strong  
3 stimulus to the Houston-area economy and is poised to take on an  
4 ever-greater role in the defense of the Lone Star State, the Gulf  
5 Coast region, and the nation; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
7 Legislature hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United  
8 States to fully support the vital operations and joint force  
9 structure at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward official copies of  
11 this resolution to the president of the United States, to the  
12 president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of  
13 Representatives of the United States Congress, to the secretary of  
14 defense, to the secretary of homeland security, to the secretary of  
15 veterans affairs, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to  
16 Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the  
17 Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United  
18 States of America.