

By: Gooden

H.R. No. 1095

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum in  
2 Terrell is marking the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the  
3 Lend-Lease Act and of the school's founding on April 7, 2011; and

4           WHEREAS, In the summer of 1940, Britain lost 11 destroyers to  
5 the German navy in less than two weeks, and newly elected prime  
6 minister Winston Churchill requested help from United States  
7 president Franklin D. Roosevelt; the United States had not yet  
8 entered the war, but under the Lend-Lease Act of 1941, it provided  
9 arms and supplies to the nations already fighting the Axis powers,  
10 and the British Royal Air Force sent crews to six civilian training  
11 schools in the United States, where they could benefit from better  
12 weather conditions and learn their craft while safe from enemy  
13 bombers; and

14           WHEREAS, The No. 1 British Flying Training School in Terrell,  
15 the first and largest of the six schools, opened three months before  
16 the attack on Pearl Harbor; the RAF cadets received ground training  
17 in England and then traveled by ship to Halifax, Nova Scotia, for  
18 more training in navigation and meteorology; before arriving in  
19 Texas, some had never been in an airplane before, or even driven a  
20 car; in Terrell, they trained in the air on aerobatics, instrument  
21 flight, and night flying, spent time on early flight simulators,  
22 and also studied navigation, meteorology, engines, and armaments;  
23 and

24           WHEREAS, Between 1941 and 1945, residents of Terrell and

1 Kaufman County welcomed more than 2,000 RAF pilots, and lifelong  
2 bonds of friendship were formed; in addition, some three dozen  
3 trainees met their wives in the United States and returned to live  
4 in Texas and other states; 200 American pilots eventually trained  
5 at the school as well; and

6 WHEREAS, Aviation enthusiasts, history buffs, and veterans  
7 alike are drawn to the museum's fascinating holdings, which include  
8 log books, training materials, uniforms, and memorabilia; to  
9 support further research and the recovery of artifacts, the  
10 institution has partnered with Shearwater Aviation Museum in  
11 Halifax; and

12 WHEREAS, The archives of the No. 1 British Flying Training  
13 School Museum document an extraordinary time period and the  
14 contributions of Terrell and Kaufman County residents to the war  
15 effort; declaring "The seas divide but the skies unite," the  
16 museum's emblem pays tribute to the enduring links forged among  
17 Britain, Canada, and the United States through the Lend-Lease  
18 program; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
20 Legislature hereby commemorate the 70th anniversary of the adoption  
21 of the Lend-Lease Act and of the founding of the No. 1 British  
22 Flying Training School and extend to all those participating in the  
23 celebration sincere best wishes for a memorable event; and, be it  
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for the No. 1 British Flying Training School Museum as an  
27 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.