

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1418

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Alisa Johnson, an active-duty
2 Marine Corps officer and a navy wife, has been nominated for the
3 2013 Military Spouse of the Year award; and

4 WHEREAS, Established by *Military Spouse* magazine in 2008,
5 this accolade pays tribute to an individual who has rendered
6 outstanding support to the military community; Lieutenant Johnson
7 was nominated for the honor in consequence of her cofounding and
8 leading the nonprofit organization Dogs on Deployment, through
9 which members of the military can find volunteers who will take care
10 of their pets while the owners are away on assignment; and

11 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Johnson first conceived the idea for DoD
12 after discovering that she and her husband, Shawn, were to be
13 deployed at the same time, leaving one of their dogs without a
14 caretaker; although they were ultimately successful in making
15 arrangements, they remained concerned about other service members
16 facing the same challenge; in 2011, the Johnsons founded Dogs on
17 Deployment, which has since helped to find temporary homes for
18 nearly 200 pets, including dogs, cats, rabbits, turtles, and
19 parrots; and

20 WHEREAS, In her capacity as president of the organization,
21 Lieutenant Johnson oversees the group's projects, works to raise
22 awareness of issues affecting active-duty personnel who own pets,
23 and endeavors to allay the costs of ownership for service members
24 and veterans in need; in addition, she has personally rescued a

1 number of military pets from shelters, assisted with their medical
2 bills, and matched them with new owners; she has also campaigned to
3 end breed restrictions in base housing and has led efforts to
4 promote responsible pet ownership through proper training, spaying
5 and neutering, and microchip registration; and

6 WHEREAS, While providing dynamic leadership for Dogs on
7 Deployment, Lieutenant Johnson is forging a promising career in the
8 marines; she is currently stationed at Naval Air Station Corpus
9 Christi, where she is attending flight school; in spite of the
10 distance that often separates them, she and her husband have
11 maintained a strong relationship, bolstered in part by their shared
12 passion for helping fellow members of the armed forces; and

13 WHEREAS, Alisa Johnson is helping to ensure that those who
14 valiantly serve our country can enjoy peace of mind about their
15 pets, knowing that their animals are being well cared for, and she
16 may take justifiable pride in being considered for this prestigious
17 honor; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate First Lieutenant Alisa Johnson on
20 her nomination for the Military Spouse of the Year award and extend
21 to her sincere best wishes for continued success in all her
22 endeavors; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Lieutenant Johnson as an expression of high regard by
25 the Texas House of Representatives.