

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 306

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes pleasure in recognizing the members of the United States Navy Armed Guard for their distinguished service and lasting commitment to the ideals of this nation; and

WHEREAS, This unique branch of the United States Navy played a vital role in protecting American interests during World War II; its members were responsible for defending United States and Allied merchant ships from attack by enemy aircraft, submarines, and surface ships; and

WHEREAS, The servicemen of the United States Navy Armed Guard were gunners, signal men, and radio operators on cargo ships, tankers, troop ships, and other vessels; without their contributions, victory in World War II would most certainly have been more difficult and would have taken much longer to achieve; and

WHEREAS, First established during World War I, when some 384 American merchant vessels carried guns and Navy personnel, the Navy Armed Guard was revived for the second World War; in the latter conflict, a total of 144,970 enlisted men and officers served in the Navy Armed Guard; and

WHEREAS, These commendable patriots sailed on 6,236 merchant ships and other Allied vessels; more than 700 of those ships were sunk and many more were damaged; Armed Guard casualties number at least 1,810 killed or missing in action and many more wounded; this casualty rate equals that of any other branch of the Armed Forces during World War II; and

S.R. No. 306

WHEREAS, Texas members of this remarkable group have gathered regularly for reunions since 1981; this year, 10 veterans will gather in College Station on March 1 and 2 to remember their service with pride and to reinforce the unbreakable friendships they have formed over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby honor the members of the United States Navy Armed Guard for their immeasurable service to this country and extend to them sincere best wishes on the occasion of their reunion; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for them as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Schwertner

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on February 25, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate