

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 644

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For nearly three quarters of a century, Naval Air
2 Station Corpus Christi has contributed greatly to the strength of
3 the U.S. armed forces through its mission to train our nation's
4 naval aviators; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1938, the U.S. Congress initiated a process to
6 create a training facility on Corpus Christi Bay, and on March 12,
7 1941, NAS Corpus Christi was commissioned by its first skipper,
8 Captain Alva Berhard; the first training flight took place in May of
9 that year; and

10 WHEREAS, By the end of 1941, 300 cadets a month were being
11 trained, and that training rate doubled after the attack on Pearl
12 Harbor; future president George H. W. Bush graduated in the third
13 training class in 1943, and by the end of the war, more than 35,000
14 naval aviators had earned their wings at NAS Corpus Christi, making
15 it the largest pilot training facility in the world at the time; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, the Chief of Naval Air Training, responsible
17 for five air training wings from Texas to Florida, is headquartered
18 at the station, and flight training remains its primary mission;
19 the four squadrons of Training Air Wing Four instruct 600 new
20 aviators a year on the T-34C Mentor trainer and other aircraft
21 during a course that lasts 18 months; and

22 WHEREAS, NAS Corpus Christi is also home to the Corpus
23 Christi Army Depot, the army's largest helicopter overhaul and
24 maintenance center, as well as facilities of the U.S. Coast Guard,

1 the U.S. Marine Aviation Training Support Group, and the U.S.
2 Customs and Border Protection Service, among others; and

3 WHEREAS, Throughout its long and proud history, NAS Corpus
4 Christi has been one of the cornerstones of our nation's defense,
5 providing countless naval aviators with the skills they need to
6 defend our liberty; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize February 25, 2015, as Naval Air
9 Station Corpus Christi Day at the State Capitol and extend to the
10 brave men and women of the station sincere best wishes for continued
11 success in their important work; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for NAS Corpus Christi as an expression of high regard by
14 the Texas House of Representatives.