

1                                   SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Pentagon could realize significant savings by  
3 relocating the United States Africa Command from Germany to  
4 Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston; and

5           WHEREAS, When AFRICOM was created in 2007, the Department of  
6 Defense chose a temporary location in Stuttgart; it intended to  
7 select a permanent headquarters in Africa, but set this plan aside  
8 due to cost projections and the sensitivities of African nations;  
9 and

10          WHEREAS, The Department of Defense conducted a study in 2012  
11 that found maintaining AFRICOM headquarters stateside would cost  
12 \$60 million to \$70 million less per year; although relocation would  
13 involve expense, this expense could be recouped within two to six  
14 years; moreover, the relocation would create as many as 4,300  
15 additional jobs for United States residents, and it would have an  
16 annual impact on the local economy ranging from \$350 million to \$450  
17 million; and

18          WHEREAS, Should the defense department decide to relocate  
19 AFRICOM, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston would be an  
20 ideal home for the headquarters; the base features strong joint  
21 service military value of active duty, reserve, and guard units  
22 from all five United States armed services, some of which presently  
23 conduct training and operational missions for AFRICOM; it is also  
24 equipped to handle military aircraft, and the city boasts one of the

1 nation's most vibrant ports; moreover, the community is  
2 exceptionally supportive of the military, and the Greater Houston  
3 area has strong cultural, educational, medical, and diplomatic ties  
4 with Africa; and

5 WHEREAS, The Government Accountability Office has concluded  
6 that the relocation of AFRICOM to the United States would generate  
7 tremendous cost savings and economic benefits, and Ellington Field  
8 Joint Reserve Base offers advantages that would enhance the  
9 effectiveness of the headquarters; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
11 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to direct the  
12 Department of Defense to relocate the United States Africa Command  
13 to Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
15 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
16 the secretary of the Department of Defense, to the president of the  
17 Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United  
18 States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to  
19 Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the  
20 Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United  
21 States of America.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 37 was adopted by the Senate on April 30, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 37 was adopted by the House on May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 136, Nays 2, one present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor