

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 92**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Retired General Tommy R. Franks, who is being honored by the Midland Independent School District for his distinguished service to the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, In May of 2017, the Midland Independent School District Board of Trustees voted to change the name of Crockett Elementary School to General Tommy Franks Elementary School in honor of the beloved town hero; and

**WHEREAS**, Born in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Tommy Franks grew up in Midland, and he graduated from Robert E. Lee High School; he joined the United States Army in 1965, and he was commissioned as a second lieutenant two years later; and

**WHEREAS**, This courageous serviceman earned six awards for valor during his service in the Vietnam War and received three Purple Hearts; in the following three decades, he gained knowledge and leadership experience through his service in West Germany, the demilitarized zone in Korea, and the Middle East; along the way, he earned a bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Arlington and a master's degree from Shippensburg University, and he graduated from both the Armed Forces Staff College and the Army War College; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2000, General Franks was promoted to four-star general and assigned as the commander-in-chief of the United States Central Command; in this position, he led United States and coalition troops in two strategically unprecedented campaigns in two years, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, General Franks retired from military service in 2003 having earned numerous medals and distinctions, and the following year, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom; in recognition of his exemplary service to the nation, the campus at 401 East Parker Avenue will be known as the General Tommy Franks Elementary School beginning with the 2017-2018 school year; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Retired General Tommy R. Franks for his exceptional commitment to his country and his outstanding service in the United States Army and congratulate him on being honored with a namesake school campus in Midland; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 3, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate