

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.R. No. 696

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, United States Air Force veteran Robert Ross of Waco  
2 has been featured in the *Waco Tribune-Herald* as one of its Voices of  
3 Valor; and

4           WHEREAS, A native of Gowanda, New York, Mr. Ross joined the  
5 U.S. Army Air Force in 1942, at the age of 18; after earning his  
6 pilot's wings in January 1944, he flew armed photographic and  
7 combat missions with the 82nd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron in  
8 the Pacific during World War II; initially assigned to the  
9 Philippines, he later relocated to the island of Ie Shima, and in  
10 one of his final flights of the conflict, he photographed the  
11 Japanese city of Nagasaki the day after it had been destroyed in the  
12 war's second atomic bomb blast; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Ross eventually left active duty to pursue his  
14 education on the G.I. Bill and joined the New York National Guard;  
15 his unit was called up at the time of the Korean War, during which he  
16 was stationed in Niagara Falls and Fairbanks, Alaska; and

17           WHEREAS, In 1970, Mr. Ross retired as a lieutenant colonel  
18 after a 28-year military career, which included flying 115  
19 missions; this decorated veteran earned the Distinguished Flying  
20 Cross and three Air Medals for his exemplary service, and he went on  
21 to work for the Veterans Administration for 23 years; and

22           WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Ross enjoyed the love and  
23 support of his wife, Margaret, with whom he shared his life for more  
24 than 70 years before her passing in 2016; together, the couple had

1 the pleasure of watching their family grow to include three  
2 children, nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren; and

3 WHEREAS, Through his bravery and devotion to our nation,  
4 Robert Ross fulfilled the highest ideals of the United States armed  
5 forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a lasting debt of gratitude  
6 for his contributions; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby congratulate Robert Ross on being recognized as  
9 one of the Voices of Valor by the *Waco Tribune-Herald* and honor him  
10 for his exemplary service to his country; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
12 prepared for Mr. Ross as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
13 House of Representatives.