RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, During the years 1917 to 1919, Texas and Texans
- 2 played a prominent role in all aspects of the United States'
- 3 involvement in the Great War; and
- WHEREAS, Of the approximately 200,000 Texans who served in
- 5 the military, on land, at sea, and in the air, 5,171 made the
- 6 ultimate sacrifice for their country during World War I; and
- WHEREAS, Texans served in the army, navy, and marines, and
- 8 Texas soldiers formed the army's 36th and 90th Infantry Divisions;
- 9 the state became a primary training location for numerous National
- 10 Guard divisions mobilized from other states; Texas was also an
- 11 early leader in military aviation, with more than a dozen army
- 12 aviation training and logistics bases established in the state; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Texans made noteworthy individual, heroic
- 14 contributions during their military service, and the state produced
- 15 numerous Medal of Honor recipients, French Croix de Guerre
- 16 recipients, and aviation aces; after World War I, many Texas
- 17 veterans went on to make significant contributions in government,
- 18 industry, the arts, and the military; and
- 19 WHEREAS, The people of Texas provided essential support to
- 20 the war effort by producing needed materials, purchasing war bonds
- 21 and stamps, participating in food conservation programs, and
- 22 volunteering in civic organizations, such as the Red Cross, the
- 23 YMCA, the Jewish Welfare Board, and the Salvation Army; Texas
- 24 industry and agriculture provided livestock, oil, cotton, lumber,

- 1 shipbuilding, and manufacturing in support of the war effort; and
- WHEREAS, Texas cities, towns, and counties supported
- 3 numerous military training facilities that were expanded in San
- 4 Antonio and El Paso and newly constructed in Houston, Dallas, Fort
- 5 Worth, Waco, and other locations around the state; students and
- 6 alumni of Texas' institutions of higher education answered the call
- 7 to serve in the army, navy, and marines; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Texas minorities and women served with distinction
- 9 in an era that often overlooked their contributions; more than
- 10 31,000 Texas African Americans served in the army during the war, as
- 11 did a substantial number of Mexican Americans and Native Americans;
- 12 Texas women served as military service members and as civilian
- 13 nurses, Red Cross volunteers, and communications specialists; and
- WHEREAS, Both public and private organizations in Texas have
- 15 preserved the historical landmarks, exhibits, and artifacts
- 16 related to the state's prominent role in World War I, including
- 17 Battleship Texas, Hangar 9, and various museum exhibits; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice are at the
- 19 forefront of commemorations of the war; all veterans, communities,
- 20 and civilians around the state made sacrifices that helped win the
- 21 war and ultimately propelled the United States and Texas onto the
- 22 world stage; and
- WHEREAS, In 2013, the United States, through an act of
- 24 Congress and the establishment of the World War I Centennial
- 25 Commission, initiated actions to recognize the 100th anniversary of
- 26 the nation's many sacrifices during World War I; and
- 27 WHEREAS, The Texas World War I Centennial Commemoration

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- 1 Association has championed the recognition of the role of Texas and
- 2 Texans in the Great War; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
- 4 Legislature hereby recognize the commemoration of the centennial of
- 5 World War I; and, be it further
- 6 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared as an
- 7 expression of gratitude to those Texans who served in World War I
- 8 and the Texas civilians who worked as part of the war effort and in
- 9 appreciation for communities and organizations that seek to
- 10 commemorate the centennial of the war through various actions and
- 11 initiatives during the period of recognition between April 2017,
- 12 the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into the war, and
- 13 June 2019, the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of
- 14 Versailles.

Miller Larson

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1218 was adopted by the House on April 5, 2017, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House