

By: Cortez

H.R. No. 1387

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Kelly Field, an asset shared by Port San Antonio and
2 the U.S. Air Force, is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2017,
3 and this is a fitting opportunity to recognize its importance to the
4 history and prosperity of San Antonio and the Lone Star State; and

5 WHEREAS, Kelly Field was established by the U.S. Army Signal
6 Corps in 1917 as one of the world's first military airfields;
7 throughout the 1920s, such celebrated pilots as Charles Lindbergh
8 and Major General Claire Chennault trained there, and during World
9 War II, nearly 7,000 pilots received their flight training at the
10 facility; in 1948, it became Kelly Air Force Base, and throughout
11 the Cold War and the Vietnam War, it provided vital support to such
12 crucial aircraft as the B-52 strategic bomber, the F-5 and F-100
13 fighter planes, and the C-54 Skymaster, used in the Berlin Airlift;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Long a key economic driver in the area, Kelly Field
16 was transformed in 2001 into Port San Antonio, a master-planned
17 aerospace and industrial complex that employs 12,000 workers and
18 contributes over \$5 billion annually to the local economy; the
19 port's 1,900 acres include an industrial airport with the region's
20 longest runway, the 350-acre East Kelly Railport, and 10 million
21 square feet of hangars, workshops, warehouses, and offices; and

22 WHEREAS, The port's more than 70 public and private sector
23 tenants include such giants as Boeing and Lockheed Martin as well as
24 a number of advanced manufacturing firms; the facility is also home

1 to the national headquarters of the 24th Air Force, also known as
2 the Cyber Command, which is the hub for a growing number of private
3 cybersecurity firms at the port; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the course of the past century, Kelly Field and
5 Port San Antonio have played a vital role in the history of aviation
6 and in the defense of our nation; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of Kelly Field
9 and Port San Antonio and extend to the port's board of directors,
10 management, staff, customers, and partners, including the U.S. Air
11 Force, sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Port San Antonio as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives.