

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 649

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Richard Overton on the grand occasion of his 111th birthday, on May 11, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Richard Overton is America's oldest living combat veteran; born May 11, 1906, he served the nation with distinction in the United States Army in World War II; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the all-black 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion; during his service, he witnessed the destruction at Pearl Harbor and fought in such Pacific theater engagements as Iwo Jima and Okinawa; and

WHEREAS, He credits his longevity to beginning his day with a splash of whiskey in his morning coffee, smoking at least 12 Tampa Sweet cigars a day, and enjoying a steady diet of fried catfish and butter pecan ice cream; he has also kept an active lifestyle by working in the yard, trimming trees, helping with the horses, cleaning the driveways, and not watching television; and

WHEREAS, Richard Overton has lived through times and experienced events that many people only know from history books; his life has given him a unique perspective on current events, and there is much to be learned from the wisdom he has gained over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby commend Richard Overton on his exceptional service to the country and his many achievements and extend to him best wishes on his 111th birthday; and, be it further

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

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 20, 2017.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate