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By:  Flynn H.R. No. 750

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, For 100 years, Texas A&M University has provided vital support to those students who have answered our nation's call to duty and served in the military; and

WHEREAS, Texas A&M was founded as a military academy in 1876, and in the aftermath of World War I, the school began offering rehabilitation and vocational training to wounded American veterans; on March 7, 1919, U.S. Army veteran Sidney O'Hara and U.S. Navy veteran H. A. Camp arrived at the school to take part in the program; Mr. O'Hara had been hurt in a troop train accident in France, and Mr. Camp had been injured while working aboard the navy training vessel *Franklin*; both men were enrolled in an eight-week course in automobile and tractor repair; and

WHEREAS, Paid for by the federal government, this program quickly grew, and within a few years, the school was serving up to 250 vocational students annually, all of whom were warmly welcomed by the university and the local community; many of the men received training in the cotton industry as well as additional instruction in such subjects as commercial law, English, bookkeeping, and office management; and

WHEREAS, A century later, Texas A&M offers a wide variety of services to its student veterans through its Military Admissions program, which provides individualized assistance to applicants, through its Veteran Services Office, which helps veterans maximize Veterans Administration education benefits and other benefits, and through its Veteran Resource and Support Center, which connects veterans with uniquely tailored resources from campus and community networks; more than 3,800 veterans or spouses and children of veterans are currently receiving benefits at the school; and

WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt of gratitude to those men and women who take up arms in our defense, and Texas A&M is playing a crucial role in the lives of its student veterans by providing them with the support, encouragement, and resources they so richly deserve; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby commend Texas A&M University for its 100 years of outstanding service to veterans and extend to the university's veterans affairs personnel sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Texas A&M University as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.