

By: Price

H.R. No. 2169

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, On May 16, 2020, Americans are paying special  
2 tribute to our nation's military personnel with the commemoration  
3 of Armed Forces Day; and

4           WHEREAS, This annual observance was launched following the  
5 1947 merger of the Departments of War and Navy into one entity, the  
6 National Military Establishment, now known as the Department of  
7 Defense; on this occasion, we pause to honor the members of the U.S.  
8 Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard, whose devotion to  
9 duty has helped safeguard Americans at home and abroad; and

10           WHEREAS, The U.S. Army began as 10 companies of riflemen that  
11 were sanctioned by the Second Continental Congress on June 14,  
12 1775; since that time, the army has supplied the majority of  
13 American ground troops when our nation has taken up arms; today, the  
14 service is composed of a number of divisions, including Infantry,  
15 Military Intelligence, Aviation, the Corps of Engineers, and  
16 Special Forces, as well as such specialized branches as the Army  
17 Medical Department Corps, Chaplain Corps, and Judge Advocate  
18 General's Corps; and

19           WHEREAS, The foundation for the U.S. Navy was first laid on  
20 October 13, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress authorized  
21 the outfitting of two warships; following the Revolutionary War,  
22 the service remained dormant until the establishment of the  
23 Department of the Navy on April 30, 1798; today, naval personnel  
24 protect the homeland by sea and provide seaborne support to the

1 other military branches; and

2           WHEREAS, On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental  
3 Congress passed a resolution to assemble two marine battalions, and  
4 though the Marine Corps disbanded after the War of Independence, it  
5 was reestablished on July 11, 1798; the service is now a component  
6 of the Department of the Navy, with the mission of preparing for  
7 counterinsurgency, amphibious warfare, and commando operations;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, The U.S. Air Force traces its roots back to the 1907  
10 creation of an aeronautical division within the U.S. Army Signal  
11 Corps, and it later became known as the Army Air Corps and the Army  
12 Air Forces before being designated as an individual branch within  
13 the Department of Defense on September 18, 1947; the service first  
14 proved its tremendous worth by performing crucial reconnaissance  
15 and bombing missions throughout World War I and World War II, and it  
16 quickly earned recognition as the most powerful air force on earth;  
17 the branch's scope has expanded dramatically over the years, and it  
18 now encompasses defense in the realms of air, space, and  
19 cyberspace; and

20           WHEREAS, Founded in 1915, the U.S. Coast Guard is now part of  
21 the Department of Homeland Security; throughout its history, the  
22 branch has assumed many duties, from protecting against pirates to  
23 intercepting contraband, conducting search and rescue operations,  
24 responding to oil spills, and licensing and certifying all U.S.  
25 maritime personnel; during wartime, its efforts have included  
26 escort and patrol duty and assisting amphibious landings; and

27           WHEREAS, From the infancy of our nation onward, American

1 military personnel have been integral to preserving the security  
2 and liberty of our citizenry; this occasion provides a fitting  
3 opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to all active-duty  
4 servicemen and servicewomen, as well as to the members of the  
5 reserve forces, the Army National Guard, and the Air National Guard  
6 for their gallantry and dedication; now, therefore, be it

7       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby recognize May 16, 2020, as Armed Forces Day and  
9 pay tribute to the members of the nation's military.