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By:  Buckley H.R. No. 14

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The 1st Cavalry Division of the U.S. Army celebrated its 100th anniversary in September 2021, providing a fitting opportunity to pay tribute to the history of this legendary American fighting force; and

WHEREAS, The 1st Cavalry Division was established on September 13, 1921, at Fort Bliss in El Paso; early in its history, the soldiers of the unit patrolled the Mexican border on horseback, but by World War II, the division was part of a modern, mechanized army; it took part in jungle and amphibious warfare in the South Pacific, at Los Negros Island and in the Philippines, and in February 1945, it was the first American unit to enter Manila; the division went on to spend five years in Japan as part of the occupation forces; and

WHEREAS, During the Korean War, the 1st Cavalry Division came ashore in the first amphibious landing and fought north of the 38th parallel, reaching Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea; the unit took part in 549 days of continuous combat, and 11 troopers received the Medal of Honor for their heroism; the division returned to Korea in 1957 and helped patrol the demilitarized zone until July 1965, when it left for Fort Benning, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, The division served as an airmobile force in Vietnam, where it earned the Presidential Unit Citation during the Pleiku campaign; it later helped liberate cities in the aftermath of the Tet Offensive, and the division's skytroopers relieved the besieged marines at Khe Sanh; during the Vietnam War, 30 more of the division's soldiers earned the Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, Starting in 1971, the 1st Cavalry Division was based at Fort Hood, and in 1990 and 1991, it took part in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, pushing some 300 kilometers into Iraq; in 1998, the division supported peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and between 2003 and 2011, the unit served multiple deployments to Iraq, where its duties included helping to oversee national elections, assuming command of Multinational Division Bagdad, and training Iraqi security forces; and

WHEREAS, During the war in Afghanistan, the division took control of more than 35,000 international troops over 14 provinces that were home to approximately 7.5 million Afghans, and it also assisted in training Afghan security forces; since 2015, the division has seen service in Korea and seven European countries, training with allied forces and helping to deter aggression; and

WHEREAS, Known as America's First Team, the 1st Cavalry Division represents some of the finest men and women in our nation's military, and all those who have served in the unit, past and present, may indeed take great pride in its storied history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby commemorate the centennial of the 1st Cavalry Division and extend to the troopers of the division 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 the 1st Cavalry Division as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.