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By:  Holland H.R. No. 457

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly cause for celebration, and World War II veteran Burnie Sutter of Frisco is reaching that impressive milestone on April 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Born near Muscatine, Iowa, in 1921, to Louis and Oszetta Sutter, Burnett Sutter grew up on his family's farm with a brother, Keith, and when he was 11, he quit school to help run the farm after his father passed away; in March 1943, he married Rozetta Royster, and three days later, he was inducted into the U.S. Army; and

WHEREAS, In June 1944, Mr. Sutter came ashore at Utah beach during the invasion of Normandy as a member of the 90th Infantry Division, known as the "Tough Ombres"; as the division fought its way across Europe as part of General George Patton's Third Army, he took part in many fierce combat engagements as a machine gunner in the 358th M Company, including the battles at Seves Island, the Moselle River crossing, and the Falaise Pocket, where his machine gun was stationed in the middle of the road as German Panzer tanks were trying to escape back into Germany; and

WHEREAS, In April 1945, Mr. Sutter was one of the first 50 American soldiers to enter Czechoslovakia in the middle of the night, a maneuver that effectively cut the Nazi empire in two, and on April 23, 1945, he took part in the liberation of the infamous Flossenburg concentration camp; he was discharged on October 30, 1945; and

WHEREAS, After the war, Mr. Sutter settled in Moline, Illinois, with his wife and their infant daughter, Sandra, and he joined his brother-in-law in the family tire sales and recap business; in retirement, he and his wife enjoyed traveling together, and he also played a leading role in the building of a new church in his community; he remains proud of his valiant service in World War II, and for many years he never missed a reunion of the 90th Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, Today, Mr. Sutter lives in Frisco, where he is surrounded by his family, including his daughter, Sandra, and her husband, Bill, as well as his three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of a century, Burnie Sutter has not only bravely served his nation but has met the challenges and opportunities of a long life with grace and fortitude, and on his special day, he is blessed with the deep respect and lasting affection of a host of loved ones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Burnie Sutter on the joyous occasion of his 100th birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Sutter as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.