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By:  Powell S.C.R. No. 4

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The increasing military capabilities of other nations pose a growing threat to the United States, and in response, the U.S. military is undertaking critical modernization efforts across all branches; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Army has adopted a modernization plan encompassing six mutually supporting priorities, among them the Future Vertical Lift program; the FVL initiative is a research and development effort to provide the next generation of rotorcraft technology to the armed forces, improving maneuverability, range, speed, payload, survivability, and reliability while reducing logistical footprint; and

WHEREAS, Key components of FVL include the Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft and Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft; FARA is designed to defeat defensive layers by providing much-needed aerial reconnaissance capabilities, while FLRAA will exploit opened areas to achieve air assault, air medical, and medium utility missions; and

WHEREAS, FVL will enable the Army National Guard, including the Texas National Guard, to expand its mission as an operational strategic reserve; and

WHEREAS, Army Futures Command, headquartered in Austin, focuses on modernization and speeding up the acquisition of platforms and technology, including FVL; Texas is both a center of the nation's aerospace and aviation industry and home to active military bases representing all branches of the military; moreover, numerous defense contractors and suppliers located in the Lone Star State play a role in strengthening military readiness; and

WHEREAS, FVL is vital to the military's ability to compete in the ever-evolving threat environment, and this important program will also promote continued growth and innovation in the aerospace and defense sectors in Texas and the nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby express its support for the Future Vertical Lift program, including FLRAA and FARA, as part of U.S. Army modernization; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby express support for full funding of the U.S. Army's Future Vertical Lift program, including the Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft and Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the members of the Texas delegation to Congress as an expression of the sentiment of the Texas Legislature.