

By: González of El Paso

H.R. No. 949

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, May 24, 2021, marks the 10th anniversary of the
2 relocation of the U.S. Army 1st Armored Division to Fort Bliss in El
3 Paso; and

4 WHEREAS, Known as Old Ironsides, this historic unit is the
5 oldest armored division in the U.S. Army; it was activated in July
6 1940 at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and it became the first American
7 armored division to engage in World War II through its efforts with
8 Operation Torch in North Africa; the Iron Soldiers, as the
9 division's members are called, have also served in the Korean and
10 Vietnam Wars, as well as during the years of conflict in Iraq and
11 Afghanistan; in 1971, the component moved to Germany, and over the
12 next four decades, it was instrumental in NATO's defense of Europe;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, On May 13, 2011, the 1st Armored Division cased its
15 colors at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, marking the departure of the
16 final U.S. Army division headquarters from Germany; on May 24 of
17 that year, the division signaled its official return to U.S. soil
18 when its colors were unfurled at Fort Bliss; and

19 WHEREAS, Today, Old Ironsides conducts operations in support
20 of U.S. military combatant commands around the globe; Fort Bliss
21 and the city of El Paso provide a welcoming environment for military
22 personnel and their families, and the presence of the 1st Armored
23 Division at the base has helped spur job creation while bringing
24 millions of dollars into the local economy; and

1 WHEREAS, The 1st Armored Division has played an integral part
2 in the defense of our nation and in the prosperity of the Lone Star
3 State, and the unit's members may indeed take great pride in their
4 myriad contributions as they celebrate this special occasion; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
7 Legislature hereby commemorate the 10th anniversary of the
8 relocation of the U.S. Army 1st Armored Division to Fort Bliss and
9 extend to all those associated with the division sincere best
10 wishes for the future; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for the 1st Armored Division as an expression of high
13 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.