

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 982

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed Texan is truly  
2 cause for celebration, and Maxine Edmondson Flournoy of Corpus  
3 Christi marked this momentous milestone in her life on March 30,  
4 2021; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Wheaton, Missouri, in 1921, the former  
6 Maxine Edmondson attended Joplin Junior College, which ran a  
7 federal Civilian Pilot Training Act program that allotted 10  
8 percent of its slots to women; after receiving her pilot's license,  
9 she worked at a defense plant in the early days of World War II; she  
10 was contacted by a recruiter for the Women Airforce Service Pilots  
11 in 1943 and decided to volunteer; assigned to Hondo Army Air Field,  
12 she trained cadets in Beechcraft C-45s, developing their navigation  
13 skills before they went off to combat; she also flew test missions  
14 and delivered aircraft across the country; and

15           WHEREAS, When the WASP program ended after the war, she  
16 became a company pilot in Alice, where she met her future husband,  
17 petroleum engineer Lucien Flournoy; the couple became the parents  
18 of three daughters, Betty, Mary Anne, and Helen, and established an  
19 oil drilling company; when her children were older, she  
20 rediscovered her passion for aviation and flew a family-owned  
21 Cessna 337 to WASP reunions across the country; and

22           WHEREAS, Mrs. Flournoy served for two years as president of  
23 the WASP association, the Order of Fifinella, and in 2010, she  
24 traveled to Washington, D.C., with other members to accept the

1 country's highest civilian award, the Congressional Gold Medal, in  
2 recognition of their groundbreaking service; moreover, she served  
3 on the Texas Historical Commission, and as a presidential appointee  
4 to the board of World USO, she attended meetings in many countries;  
5 the USO room at the Naval base in Ingleside is named in her honor, as  
6 is the Third Coast Squadron Commemorative Air Force in Aransas  
7 Pass; she and her husband donated to the squadron a hangar that also  
8 serves as a military museum; they shared a rewarding relationship  
9 of 56 years before Mr. Flournoy's death in 2003; today,  
10 Mrs. Flournoy is the cherished matriarch of a fine family that has  
11 grown to include 11 grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, An inspiring member of the Greatest Generation,  
13 Maxine Flournoy has met life's challenges and opportunities with  
14 bold determination, and she has earned the deep admiration of all  
15 who are privileged to know her; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
17 Legislature hereby congratulate Maxine Edmondson Flournoy on her  
18 100th birthday and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued  
19 happiness; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Mrs. Flournoy as an expression of high regard by the  
22 Texas House of Representatives.