

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed member of the
2 Greatest Generation is truly cause for celebration, and Robert
3 Richard Fegraeus of Dallas marked this momentous milestone in his
4 life on April 4, 2021, in the company of family and friends; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Duluth, Minnesota, in 1921, Bob Fegraeus is
6 the son of Erik and Idaline Fegraeus; he graduated from Central High
7 School and attended what is now the University of Minnesota Duluth;
8 coming of age during World War II, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and
9 became a pilot; he served in the Pacific Theater on the USS
10 *Independence* (CVL-22) with VFN-41, the "Shademaids"; his squadron
11 is considered the first to fly night missions off aircraft carriers
12 without radar, requiring aviators to read the wake of the carrier
13 and land by the dim light of smudge pots on the deck; and

14 WHEREAS, One of the first Hellcat fighter pilots,
15 Mr. Fegraeus logged over 900 hours in F6Fs, racking up 140 carrier
16 landings, including 40 at night; on one mission, his plane took
17 enemy fire through the wing, less than four feet from the cockpit;
18 he continued to serve following the war, retiring after 22 years in
19 1964 at the rank of commander; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Fegraeus married Doris "Dorrie" Zimmerman in
21 Coronado, California; settling in Dallas, they raised three
22 children, and Mr. Fegraeus worked as a claims manager for Mutual of
23 Omaha; the couple shared a fulfilling relationship until
24 Mrs. Fegraeus's passing in 2010; and

1 WHEREAS, A valued member of his community, Mr. Fegraeus
2 belongs to East Dallas Christian Church, where he is known for his
3 dry wit and coffee-making prowess, as well as his derring-do,
4 although he reportedly gave up skydiving at some point after his
5 90th birthday; today, he enjoys the love and support of his family,
6 which has grown to include his daughter, Karin Morgan, and her
7 husband, Sonny, his sons, Eric and his wife, Susie, and Kurt and his
8 wife, Susan, and his grandchildren, Jason, Jennifer, Jacob, Kelsey,
9 Jordan, and Kendall, and great-grandchildren, Drew, Ben, and
10 Hannah; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the course of a century, Bob Fegraeus has
12 bravely served his nation and met life's challenges and
13 opportunities with grace and fortitude, earning the deep admiration
14 of all who are privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Robert Richard Fegraeus on his
17 100th birthday and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
18 happiness; and, be it further

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

Neave

H.R. No. 1172

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1172 was adopted by the House on May 23, 2021, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House