## R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, On Memorial Day 2021, the people of Ellis and Henderson Counties are joining Americans across the nation to honor those men and women in uniform who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our freedom; and

WHEREAS, In the years after the Civil War, veterans and their fellow citizens came together on Decoration Day to lay flowers on the graves of those who lost their lives in combat on both sides of the conflict; over time, the day became known as Memorial Day, and since the 1970s, it has been held on the last Monday in May; and

WHEREAS, Each year, in communities from coast to coast, solemn ceremonies are held at cemeteries, courthouse squares, and veterans memorials; in accordance to tradition, the United States flag is lowered to half staff early in the day and raised again at noon, and Memorial Day events often feature a performance of "Taps," a 21-gun salute, and a reading of the names of community members who gave their lives in wartime; and

WHEREAS, The people of Ellis and Henderson Counties remember their loved ones year-round with their handsome veterans memorials; in Henderson County, an elegant redbrick memorial wall in the East Texas Arboretum lists the names of veterans from the county, while the striking black granite tablets of the Ellis County Veterans Memorial pay homage to that county's fallen; and

WHEREAS, Generations of Texans have answered their nation's call to duty, and on this day each year, it is incumbent upon us that
we reflect on all that is asked of our servicemen and women, to whom we owe a debt that the passage of time can never diminish; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87 th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate Memorial Day 2021 and pay tribute to the military personnel of Ellis and Henderson Counties who have given their lives in service.

