

By: Tepper

H.C.R. No. 7

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For 125 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
2 United States has rendered exceptional service to former members of
3 our nation's armed forces; and

4 WHEREAS, The VFW traces its origins to 1899, when veterans of
5 the Spanish-American War and the Philippine-American War founded
6 local organizations in Ohio, Colorado, and Pennsylvania to advocate
7 for their rights and secure benefits such as medical care and
8 pensions; the movement quickly gained momentum, and the groups
9 banded together to form the VFW; today, the organization and the VFW
10 Auxiliary boast memberships totaling more than 1.4 million; and

11 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the VFW has supported a wide
12 range of veterans' benefits programs, and it has offered guidance
13 to countless former service members in their transition back to
14 civilian life; in addition, the organization has made a positive
15 impact in local communities, and it has distinguished itself as a
16 national leader on issues important to veterans and their families;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The VFW's many contributions have included
19 advocating for the establishment of the Veterans Administration
20 (now known as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs) and the
21 national cemetery system, fighting for improved health care for
22 women veterans, and providing funds for a number of memorials
23 honoring military service members; the organization has also played
24 an instrumental role in the passage of legislation such as the GI

1 Bill for the 21st Century in 2008, the Veterans Access, Choice, and
2 Accountability Act of 2014, the 2019 Blue Water Navy Vietnam
3 Veterans Act, and the 2022 Honoring Our PACT Act; and

4 WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt of gratitude to the
5 military personnel who put themselves in harm's way to defend our
6 safety, security, and freedom, and the VFW is indeed deserving of
7 special recognition for its efforts to ensure that veterans receive
8 the support and appreciation they deserve; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby designate September 29 as Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
11 United States Day; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of
13 Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in
14 effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is
15 finally passed by the legislature.