## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, General (Ret.) Tommy Ray Franks, who oversaw 1 2 American operations in Afghanistan and Iraq as leader of the U.S. Central Command (CentCom), is appearing with Neal McCoy & Friends 3 at a benefit for the East Texas Angel Network (ETAN) in Longview on 4 5 September 27, 2003; and WHEREAS, A charitable foundation, ETAN was created by country 6 music star Neal McCoy and his wife, Melinda, in 1995 to provide 7 financial assistance to the families of children with serious 8 illnesses; to date, ETAN has raised approximately \$2 million and 9 10 helped more than 100 families; and WHEREAS, General Franks has been a great fan and close friend 11 12 of Mr. McCoy's since getting to know him during the performer's travels with various USO tours; at the general's request, Mr. McCoy 13 14 performed at the July 2003 ceremony marking the transfer of CentCom 15 leadership from General Franks to General John P. Abizaid; and 16

WHEREAS, A native of Oklahoma, General Franks grew up in Midland and attended the same high school as First Lady Laura Bush; he was commissioned as an army second lieutenant in 1967 and was soon posted to Vietnam, where he earned three Purple Hearts; during his 36-year military career, he also served at the Pentagon, in Europe, in Korea, and in Iraq during the first Persian Gulf war; and WHEREAS, Assuming command of CentCom in the summer of 2000, General Franks became responsible for U.S. military operations in 25 countries, stretching from the Horn of Africa to Central Asia; he

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- 1 subsequently directed American forces in the campaigns that
- 2 overthrew the Taliban in Afghanistan and Saddam Hussein in Iraq;
- 3 and
- 4 WHEREAS, Among the numerous commendations bestowed on
- 5 General Franks have been four Legion of Merit medals, three Bronze
- 6 Stars with "V" for valor, an Air Medal with "V," and an Army
- 7 Commendation Medal with "V"; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Throughout a career distinguished by sound judgment
- 9 and exemplary leadership, General Franks has set the highest
- 10 standards of excellence in the performance of his duties, and it is
- 11 a pleasure to welcome him back to the Lone Star State as he takes
- 12 part in this outstanding benefit; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas,
- 3rd Called Session, hereby honor General (Ret.) Tommy Ray Franks on
- 15 the occasion of his appearance at the Ninth Annual Benefit for the
- 16 East Texas Angel Network and extend to him profound gratitude for
- 17 his exceptional service to this country; and, be it further
- 18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 19 prepared for General Franks as an expression of high regard by the
- 20 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.

Merritt Craddick Corte Uresti McReynolds

Craddick Geren Mercer Allen Giddings Merritt Alonzo Goodman Miller Bailey Goolsby Moreno of Harris Baxter Griggs Moreno of El Paso Berman Grusendorf Morrison Bohac Guillen Mowery Bonnen Gutierrez Naishtat Branch Haggerty Nixon Brown of Kaufman Hamilton Noriega Brown of Brazos Hamric Oliveira Burnam Hardcastle Olivo Callegari Harper-Brown Paxton Campbell Hartnett Pena Canales Heflin Phillips Hegar Capelo Pickett Casteel Hilderbran Pitts Castro Hill Puente Chavez Hochberg Quintanilla Chisum Hodge Raymond Christian Homer Reyna Coleman Riddle Hope Cook of Navarro Hopson Ritter Cook of Colorado Howard Rodriguez Corte Hughes Rose Crabb Hunter Seaman Crownover Hupp Smith of Tarrant Davis of Harris Isett Smith of Harris Davis of Dallas Jones of Lubbock Smithee Jones of Bexar Dawson Solis Delisi Jones of Dallas Solomons Denny Keel Stick Deshotel Keffer of Dallas Swinford Driver Keffer of Eastland Talton Dukes Taylor Dunnam Kolkhorst Telford Dutton Krusee Thompson Edwards Kuempel Truitt Eiland Laney Turner Eissler Laubenberg Uresti Elkins Lewis Van Arsdale Ellis Luna Villarreal Escobar Mabry West Farabee Madden Wilson Farrar Marchant Wise Flores Martinez Fischer Wohlgemuth Flynn McCall Wolens Gallego McClendon Wong Garza McReynolds Woolley

Zedler

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President of the Senate

Jon Caddel

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 16 was adopted by the House on September 24, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 16 was adopted by the Senate on September 29, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

28 oct 03

Date

RICK PERRY

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE \_\_\_\_\_O'CLOCK

OCT 28 2003

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