

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON AND SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to prevent the deactivation of the 307th Red Horse Squadron, based at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, established in the year 1932, the Barksdale Air Force Base, a United States Air Force Base located approximately 4.72 miles east-southeast of Bossier City, Louisiana, is named in honor of World War I aviator and test pilot 2nd Lieutenant Eugene Hoy Barksdale (1896-1926); and

WHEREAS, Barksdale Air Force Base has proudly served Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas and is home to the Air Force's newest command, Air Force Global Strike Command, the 2nd Bomb Wing, 2nd Mission Support Group, 2nd Operations Group, 2nd Maintenance Group, the 2nd Medical Group, 8th Air Force Museum, and the Air Force Reserve's 917th Wing; and

WHEREAS, the Red Horse unit, officially known as the 307th Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers, is a construction unit staffed with civil engineers, many of whom deployed to southwest Asia during the fall; and

WHEREAS, Barksdale Air Force Base has grown into a major source of revenue and employment for the region by providing jobs for nearly ten thousand military and civilian employees; and

WHEREAS, under the Defense Department's 2015 proposed spending plan, the 307th Red Horse Squadron would be deactivated as the Air Force Reserve's authorized strength would nationally decrease by almost five percent, to 61,700 airmen; and

WHEREAS, under the 2015 defense spending plan, the Air Force Reserve would lose the rest of the Air Force Reserve's venerable fleet of A-10s, which are Cold War-era aircraft known as Warthogs; and

WHEREAS, Barksdale Air Force Base continues to be a huge priority for national security and for communities in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the deactivation of the 307th Red Horse Squadron at Barksdale Air Force Base will have an adverse effect on not only the economy, but the community as well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to oppose the elimination of the 307th Red Horse Squadron based at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE