

1-1 By: Taylor of Galveston S.C.R. No. 41
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2017; March 22, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border
 1-4 Security; April 3, 2017, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 3, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	

1-15 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Pentagon could realize significant savings by
 1-17 relocating the United States Africa Command from Germany to
 1-18 Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston; and

1-19 WHEREAS, When AFRICOM was created in 2007, the Department of
 1-20 Defense chose a temporary location in Stuttgart; it intended to
 1-21 select a permanent headquarters in Africa, but set this plan aside
 1-22 due to cost projections, security, and the sensitivities of African
 1-23 nations; and

1-24 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense conducted a study in 2012
 1-25 that found maintaining AFRICOM headquarters stateside would cost
 1-26 \$60 million to \$70 million less per year, and now those savings
 1-27 would be even greater due to significant increases in Overseas Cost
 1-28 of Living Allowances rates; although relocation would involve
 1-29 expense, this expense could be recouped within two to six years;
 1-30 moreover, the relocation would repatriate about 1,400 direct jobs
 1-31 and create as many as 4,300 additional jobs for United States
 1-32 residents, and it would have an annual impact on the local economy
 1-33 ranging from \$400 million to \$500 million; and

1-34 WHEREAS, Should the defense department decide to relocate
 1-35 AFRICOM, Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston would be an
 1-36 ideal home for the headquarters; the base features strong joint
 1-37 service military value of active duty, reserve, and guard units
 1-38 from all five United States armed services, some of which presently
 1-39 conduct training and operational missions for AFRICOM; it is also
 1-40 equipped to handle large military aircraft, and the city boasts one
 1-41 of the nation's most vibrant ports, which handles 40 percent of all
 1-42 United States trade with Africa; moreover, the community is
 1-43 exceptionally supportive of the military, and the Greater Houston
 1-44 area has strong cultural, educational, medical, and diplomatic ties
 1-45 with Africa; and

1-46 WHEREAS, The Government Accountability Office has concluded
 1-47 that the relocation of AFRICOM to the United States would generate
 1-48 tremendous cost savings and economic benefits, and Ellington Field
 1-49 Joint Reserve Base offers advantages that would enhance the
 1-50 effectiveness of the headquarters; now, therefore, be it

1-51 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-52 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to direct the
 1-53 Department of Defense to relocate the United States Africa Command
 1-54 to Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston; and, be it further

1-55 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
 1-56 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
 1-57 the secretary of the Department of Defense, to the president of the
 1-58 Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United
 1-59 States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to
 1-60 Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the
 1-61 Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United
 1-62 States of America.

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