1-1 By: Tepper (Senate Sponsor - Hall) H.C.R. No. 7 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2025; 1-3 May 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on 1-4 Administration; May 12, 2025, reported favorably by the following 1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 12, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7 Yea Nay Absent PNV 1-8 Hall Х Х 1-9 Hinojosa of Nueces 1-10 1-11 Cook Х Eckhardt Х 1-12 Kolkhorst Х Menéndez 1-13 Х 1-14 Х Middleton

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, For 125 years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the 1-17 United States has rendered exceptional service to former members of 1-18 our nation's armed forces; and

1-19 WHEREAS, The VFW traces its origins to 1899, when veterans of 1-20 the Spanish-American War and the Philippine-American War founded 1-21 local organizations in Ohio, Colorado, and Pennsylvania to advocate 1-22 for their rights and secure benefits such as medical care and 1-23 pensions; the movement quickly gained momentum, and the groups 1-24 banded together to form the VFW; today, the organization and the VFW 1-25 Auxiliary boast memberships totaling more than 1.4 million; and

1-26 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the VFW has supported a wide 1-27 range of veterans' benefits programs, and it has offered guidance 1-28 to countless former service members in their transition back to 1-29 civilian life; in addition, the organization has made a positive 1-30 impact in local communities, and it has distinguished itself as a 1-31 national leader on issues important to veterans and their families; 1-32 and

1-33 The VFW's have included WHEREAS, many contributions advocating for the establishment of the Veterans Administration 1-34 (now known as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs) and the 1-35 1-36 national cemetery system, fighting for improved health care for women veterans, and providing funds for a number of memorials honoring military service members; the organization has also played 1-37 1-38 1-39 an instrumental role in the passage of legislation such as the GI Bill for the 21st Century in 2008, the Veterans Access, Choice, and 1-40 Accountability Act of 2014, the 2019 Blue Water Navy Vietnam 1-41 Veterans Act, and the 2022 Honoring Our PACT Act; and 1-42

1-43 WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt of gratitude to the 1-44 military personnel who put themselves in harm's way to defend our 1-45 safety, security, and freedom, and the VFW is indeed deserving of 1-46 special recognition for its efforts to ensure that veterans receive 1-47 the support and appreciation they deserve; now, therefore, be it

1-47 the support and appreciation they deserve; now, therefore, be it 1-48 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas 1-49 hereby designate September 29 as Veterans of Foreign Wars of the 1-50 United States Day; and, be it further

1-51 RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of 1-52 Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in 1-53 effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is 1-54 finally passed by the legislature.

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