

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4622, by Representatives Chopp, Kristiansen, Appleton, Barkis, Bergquist, Blake, Buys, Caldier, Chandler, Chapman, Clibborn, Cody, Condotta, DeBolt, Dent, Doglio, Dolan, Dye, Farrell, Fey, Fitzgibbon, Frame, Goodman, Graves, Gregerson, Griffey, Haler, Hansen, Hargrove, Harmsworth, Harris, Hayes, Holy, Hudgins, Irwin, Jenkin, Jenkins, Johnson, Kagi, Kilduff, Kirby, Klippert, Kloba, Koster, Kraft, Kretz, Lovick, Lytton, MacEwen, Macri, Manweller, Maycumber, McBride, McCabe, McCaslin, McDonald, Morris, Muri, Nealey, Orcutt, Ormsby, Ortiz-Self, Orwall, Pellicciotti, Peterson, Pettigrew, Pike, Pollet, Reeves, Riccelli, Robinson, Rodne, Ryu, Santos, Sawyer, Schmick, Sells, Senn, Shea, Slatter, Smith, Springer, Stambaugh, Stanford, Steele, Stokesbary, Stonier, Sullivan, Tarleton, Taylor, Tharinger, Van Werven, Vick, Volz, J. Walsh, Wilcox, Wylie, and Young

1 WHEREAS, Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) has a legacy of
2 significance to the United States and to the world that brings honor
3 and pride to the entire state of Washington; and

4 WHEREAS, Camp Lewis, as it was then known, began construction in
5 May of 1917 under the direction of Captain David L. Stone; who, in
6 less than 90 days, created one thousand seven hundred fifty-seven
7 buildings as well as four hundred twenty-two other structures with
8 light and heat, exhibiting the "can do" spirit that inhabits the
9 exploits of JBLM to this day; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1927, just to the north of Camp Lewis, Pierce County
11 residents established an airfield of the highest quality; in 1939,
12 that airfield was transferred to the United States Government and
13 would later become McChord Field; and

14 WHEREAS, On February 1, 2010, Camp Lewis, later known as Fort
15 Lewis, and McChord Field, later known as McChord Air Force Base,
16 consolidated facilities and became Joint Base Lewis-McChord; and

17 WHEREAS, The first recruits to Camp Lewis became the "Ninety-
18 First Division" or the "Wild West Division," which served in numerous
19 battles in World War I, including the Meuse-Argonne offensive and the
20 Battle of Flanders, and captured more than 2,200 German soldiers; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1940, McChord Field was the General Headquarters of
22 the Air Force Northwest District; and

1 WHEREAS, With the outbreak of World War II, Colonel Dwight David
2 Eisenhower, who later became President of the United States, was
3 assigned to Fort Lewis as commander to the 15th Infantry Regiment and
4 while there was promoted and placed in command of the entire pacific
5 coast defense; and

6 WHEREAS, The first military group to arrive at McChord Field was
7 the 17th Bombardment Group that patrolled the west coast for enemy
8 submarines after the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor; and

9 WHEREAS, Colonel James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle came to McChord and
10 selected ten aircrew members to participate in the courageous 1942
11 Doolittle Raid on Tokyo, which was the first American strike against
12 the homeland of imperial Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor; and

13 WHEREAS, During World War II, Fort Lewis contributed and deployed
14 many divisions that were essential to the war effort, and McChord
15 Field continued to play a strategic, vital, and heroic role until the
16 close of World War II; and

17 WHEREAS, Both institutions were essential for the war efforts
18 that followed, including the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the
19 Cold War; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1972, Fort Lewis was given the task of making up a
21 volunteer Army; for this, the 9th Infantry Division was reactivated
22 and became the first volunteer division in the United States Army;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, During the Reagan administration, Fort Lewis was
25 selected to be the testing ground for molding the Army into a highly
26 skilled, efficient fighting machine with lighter mobilized units
27 capable of rapid deployment; and

28 WHEREAS, Fort Lewis and McChord played a strategic role in the
29 First Gulf War; Operation Desert Storm; and, following the September
30 11, 2001, terror attacks, played a key role in Operation Iraqi
31 Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and to homeland security; and

32 WHEREAS, In 2004, Task Force Olympia was activated to deploy
33 units into Iraq, including reserves, National Guards, Marines,
34 Australian officers, and several subordinate units including the 3rd
35 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division and the 1st
36 Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division; and

37 WHEREAS, McChord Field, individually and as a part of JBLM, has
38 an honorable and lifesaving record of humanitarian relief; and

