

# The State of Texas



## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Howard Dean Berry of Jack County, an esteemed member of the Greatest Generation, is celebrating his 100th birthday on April 18, 2024; and

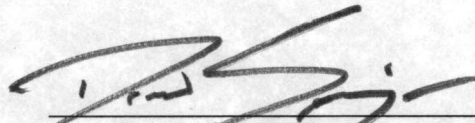
WHEREAS, During World War II, Dean Berry served as a glider paratrooper in the United States Army's 17th Airborne Division, which shipped out to England in August 1944; his division was ordered to Belgium in December and he took part in the Battle of the Bulge, fighting for the town of Bastogne, which was surrounded by the German offensive and heavily bombarded; joining forces with the 101st Airborne Division, the 17th was instrumental in repelling the German advance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Berry was also involved in Operation Varsity, the first airborne invasion across the Rhine into Germany itself; on March 24, 1945, the 17th took to the skies, joining the massive effort to secure a foothold in Westphalia; as troops dropped behind enemy lines, the division came under heavy anti-aircraft fire, but it achieved its objective, and Operation Varsity proved to be a turning point in the war; wounded during the glider insertion, Mr. Berry received the Purple Heart for his valor; and

WHEREAS, Today, Mr. Berry resides at the family "Flyin' Armadillo Airport 55TT," north of Jacksboro; he is a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and

WHEREAS, Dean Berry has inspired innumerable people through his courage, tenacity, and patriotism, and as he marks a century of life well lived, he continues to enrich the lives of all who are fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Howard Dean Berry be congratulated on the occasion of his 100th birthday and that he be extended sincere best wishes for continued happiness.

  
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Drew Springer, Jr.  
State Senator  
District 30