
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
COMMEMORATE THE HONORABLE SERVICE OF THE F-14 TOMCAT IN
DEFENDING FREEDOM.

1 WHEREAS, having survived the Cold War without the pall of
2 thermonuclear destruction, the present generation of Americans
3 and all future generations to come are indebted to the service
4 of not only the men and women of the United States Military, but
5 also the unique and innovative technologies employed by them in
6 the defense of our Nation; and

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8 WHEREAS, during the height of the Cold War, the United
9 States Navy developed a revolutionary interceptor aircraft with
10 the mission of not only defending its carriers, but also
11 negating the threat of Soviet bombers armed with with nuclear
12 weapons by engaging them at extremely long range with the
13 combination of an advanced fire control system, radar, and
14 missile system; and

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16 WHEREAS, on December 21, 1970, the aircraft designed for
17 the Navy to accomplish that mission, the F-14 Tomcat, had its
18 first successful flight; and

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20 WHEREAS, after an accelerated, yet ultimately successful
21 development period, the F-14 Tomcat began replacing the F-4
22 Phantom II in US Navy service, beginning with squadrons VF-1
23 "Wolfpack" and VF-2 "Bounty Hunters" aboard the USS Enterprise;
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, on August 19, 1981, the F-14 Tomcat proved its
27 strength in defending freedom during what has become popularly
28 known as "The Gulf of Sidra Incident" in which two F-14s of VF-
29 41 "Black Aces" were threatened by missile fire from two
30 Russian-made Libyan Su-22 fighters, but subsequently evaded the

1 incoming missiles and downed both aircraft with no injury or
2 loss to American forces; and

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4 WHEREAS, throughout the 1980s, the F-14 Tomcat was
5 successfully employed in various deployments and engagements
6 around the world, successfully serving as both a deterrent to
7 Soviet aggression and a defense to American interests; and

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9 WHEREAS, the F-14's deployment in the Pacific contributed
10 greatly to the collective defense and security of the Hawaiian
11 Islands; and

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13 WHEREAS, the popularity and success of the F-14 has made it
14 more than just a weapons platform, but an American cultural icon
15 of free spirit, triumph over opposition, and freedom from fear;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, the F-14's iconic status was dramatized in many
19 patriotic American films, including most notably, "Top Gun" and
20 "The Final Countdown"; and

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22 WHEREAS, it is not uncommon or without precedent for the
23 United States Postal Service to commemorate American cultural
24 icons with special stamps and postage; therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
28 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, this body respectfully
29 requests the United States Postal Service to commemorate the
30 honorable service of the F-14 Tomcat in defending freedom; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature extends its
33 warmest Mahalo and Aloha to the engineers, maintenance crews,
34 flight crews, and all persons associated with the operation of
35 the F-14 Tomcat, and extends its warmest wishes to them in all
36 their future endeavors for their contribution to not only our
37 present day, but our future; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to:

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42 (1) The Governor of the State of Hawaii;
43 (2) The President of the United States of America;
44 (3) The members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation;

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- 1 (4) The US Postmaster General;
- 2 (5) The Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee; and
- 3 (6) The F-14 Tomcat Association.
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OFFERED BY:

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BY REQUEST

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MAR 14 2007