

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring United States Army Major General Karl R. Horst upon the occasion of his designation as the Chief of Staff for the United States Central Command

WHEREAS, The dedication and sacrifices of our military personnel ensure our continued role as a Nation which embodies the ideals of democracy, and is a defender of liberty for peoples throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Individuals who dedicate their lives to military service merit the commendation and applause of all citizens for their commitment to the preservation of American freedom; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor United States Army Major General Karl R. Horst upon the occasion of his designation as the Chief of Staff for the United States Central Command; and

WHEREAS, On June 3, 2011, Major General Karl R. Horst will change command and become the Chief of Staff for the United States Central Command located at McDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida; and

WHEREAS, The United States Central Command (CENTCOM) is one of 10 combatant commands in the United States military; located between the European and Pacific combatant commands, CENTCOM's area of responsibility covers the "central" area of the globe and consists of 20 countries -- Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen; and

WHEREAS, The mission of CENTCOM is, with national and international partners, to promote cooperation among nations, respond to crises, and deter or defeat state and nonstate aggression; it supports development and, when necessary, reconstruction in order to establish the conditions for regional security, stability, and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Enlisting in the Army on June 22, 1973, Major General Karl R. Horst completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Dix, New Jersey; he attended the United States Military Academy Preparatory School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and subsequently received his bachelor's degree and commission from the United States Military Academy in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Major General Karl R. Horst started his Army career with the 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), Federal Republic of Germany, where he served as a rifle and scout platoon leader; his company command was in the 47th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division (Motorized), Fort Lewis, Washington; later he commanded the 2d Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment; and the 1st Brigade, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; in July 2004, he became the 3d Infantry Division's assistant division commander (maneuver) and in September 2006, he assumed the duties as the Deputy Commanding General, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Major General Karl R. Horst's primary staff assignments include Battalion S-3 in the 60th Infantry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Washington; Brigade S-3, Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning, Georgia; and Battalion S-3, 2d Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg; he served an assignment on the Army staff as aide-de-camp to the Army Chief of Staff and also served a joint and NATO assignment as special assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Major General Karl R. Horst served as the chief of staff, 82d Airborne Division; then as the chief of staff, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg; he also served as the Director for Oper-

ations, Plans, Logistics and Engineering (J3/J4), United States Joint Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, On June 23, 2009, Major General Karl R. Horst became commander of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region, and was promoted to the rank of major general in November of that year; and

WHEREAS, Major General Horst's military education includes the infantry officer basic and advanced courses, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College; his civilian study includes a master's degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Major General Karl R. Horst's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Legion of Merit (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Bronze Star Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters); he has earned the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Combat Action Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, and the Army Ranger Tab; and

WHEREAS, In all his official acts, Major General Karl R. Horst has been governed by a sense of loyalty, duty and honor that allowed him to be a natural leader; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his extraordinary and outstanding military service career, Major General Karl R. Horst has earned the respect, admiration, esteem and affection of his fellow members of the Armed Forces of the United States, and of his friends, family and colleagues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor United States Army Major General Karl R. Horst upon the occasion of his designation as the Chief of Staff for the United States Central Command; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Major General Karl R. Horst.