

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY REPRESENTATIVES ARMES, DANAHAY, FRANKLIN, GEYMANN, GUINN, HENSGENS, HILL, HOWARD, AND KLECKLEY AND SENATORS JOHNS, LAFLEUR, MORRISH, AND JOHN SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Brigadier General William B. Hickman upon his appointment as the new commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk and to welcome him to the capitol.

WHEREAS, General Hickman brings a wealth of experience in both collective training and combat leadership and it is appropriate to recognize and record for posterity his contributions to the armed services and to his country; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman graduated from Vanderbilt University with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, a master of business administration degree from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University, and a master's degree in national security and strategic studies from the United States Naval War College; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army in 1983; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman's previous command assignments include command of B Company, 3d Battalion, 325th Infantry (Airborne Battalion Combat Team), United States Army Southern European Task Force; command of 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) from 2001 to 2003 during the initial operation in Iraq; and command of 2d Brigade Combat Team (Strike Brigade), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) from 2006-2008 during their deployment to Baghdad, Iraq; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman served as the Deputy Commander (Operations) for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) from August 2011, to July 2012, and most recently as the Deputy Commanding General (Support) from July 2012, to November 2012, a role in which he traveled, on numerous occasions, to prepare soldiers for deployment; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman's most recent key staff assignment was as the Military Assistant to the Commander, International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, other key assignments for General Hickman included Executive Office of the Commander, United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida; Director of Operations (J-3) for the Multi-National Security Transition Command–Iraq; Assistant to the Chief of Staff, G-3/Director of Plans, Training, and Mobilization for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during Operation Iraqi Freedom; S-3 and Executive Officer of 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry Regiment, Senior Liaison Officer and other assignments with Headquarters, 75th Ranger Regiment; and Senior Project Officer at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman has been recognized many times throughout his career for his courageous leadership and has received many awards, including the Defense Superior Service Medal (1OLC), Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (3OLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4OLC), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1OLC), Army Achievement Medal (3OLC), Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and Ranger Tab; and

WHEREAS, in his new role at Fort Polk, General Hickman will have some of the highest priority missions in the Army, including training brigade combat teams for Afghanistan, training advisors for Afghanistan, and the Defense, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Response Force missions; and

WHEREAS, General Hickman is described by his colleagues as a proven leader of immense capability and worthy of the increased responsibility that comes with his position as commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center; and

WHEREAS, over the span of his twenty-nine year career in the United States Army, General Hickman has earned a reputation as an outstanding soldier, a superb leader, and a courageous warrior; and

WHEREAS, the valiant actions of General Hickman uphold the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces, and he brings tremendous honor and pride to his family and friends, Fort Polk, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Brigadier General William B. Hickman upon his selection as commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, does hereby record for posterity his many contributions to the United States Army, does hereby express appreciation for his superior leadership, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for success and prosperity in his new role as commander.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana welcomes General Hickman to the state capitol on the occasion of his historic visit to the legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Brigadier General William B. Hickman.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE