

House Resolution 19EX

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164th, Hitchens of the 161st, Petrea of the 166th, and Gilliard of the 162nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Lieutenant Colonel David C. Simons upon the occasion of his
2 retirement from the Georgia Air National Guard; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, our nation's security continues to rely on patriotic men and women who put
4 their personal lives on hold in order to place themselves in harm's way to protect the
5 freedoms that all United States citizens cherish; and

6 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel David C. Simons has long been recognized by the citizens
7 of this nation for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal
8 commitment to the welfare of the citizens of the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, this extraordinary officer has diligently and conscientiously served his country
10 for 35 years as a member of the United States Army, the Maryland Army National Guard,
11 and finally the Georgia Air National Guard where he has served as the Public Affairs Officer
12 for the 165th Airlift Wing; and

13 WHEREAS, he joined the Army in 1983 and served as a demolitions specialist assigned to
14 the 5th Special Forces Group in Fort Bragg, North Carolina; he later joined the 20th Special
15 Forces Group of the Maryland Army National Guard before graduating from the Maryland
16 Military Academy and earning his commission as a Second Lieutenant; and

17 WHEREAS, after moving to Savannah, Georgia, he joined the Georgia Air National Guard
18 and served with honor and distinction on trips or missions to Bosnia, Germany, Puerto Rico,
19 Peru, England, France, Poland, and the Republic of Georgia, as well as responding within
20 days to the 1st Air Force as a public affairs officers after 9/11, and then leading a convoy of
21 Georgia National Guardsmen in response to Hurricane Katrina; and

22 WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Special Forces Survival, Evade, Resist and Escape (SERE)
23 School, the Infantry Officer Basic Course, the Defense Information School, and the Air War
24 College; and

25 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Simons was deployed three times, serving in positions of
26 greater authority each time, culminating in 2013 as the draw-down public affairs officer for
27 the International Security Assistance Force-Afghanistan, where he was the highest ranking
28 public affairs officer in country during overnight hours; and

29 WHEREAS, his selfless and heroic actions stand as a shining tribute to the strength of human
30 spirit and willpower, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding
31 accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished American be recognized
32 appropriately.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize and commend Lieutenant Colonel David C. Simons for
35 his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the citizens of his country
36 and state, congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his retirement, and extend the most
37 sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
40 Lieutenant Colonel David C. Simons.