

By: Senator D. Wallace

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO DESIGNATE THE MUSEUM LOCATED ON THE FORMER EAKER AIR FORCE BASE THE "NATIONAL COLD WAR CENTER".

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO DESIGNATE THE MUSEUM LOCATED ON THE FORMER EAKER AIR FORCE BASE THE "NATIONAL COLD WAR CENTER".

WHEREAS, the Cold War was a period of tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II; and

WHEREAS, historians do not agree on the dates of the Cold War, but the period is generally considered to span the time between the establishment of the Truman Doctrine in 1947 and the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991; and

WHEREAS, a Strategic Air Command program was established in 1946, at the Blytheville Air Force Base, which was renamed Eaker Air Force Base in 1988, located in Blytheville, Arkansas, to oversee the United States Air Force's long-range bombing forces and to conduct long-range offensive operations in any part of the world; and

WHEREAS, that same year the Eaker Air Force Base was designated a Strategic Air Command operation responsible for Cold War command and control of land-based strategic bomber aircraft and intercontinental ballistic missiles; and



WHEREAS, the Eaker Air Force Base closed in 1992, but given its place in history, it is imperative that artifacts, mementos, and stories of the Cold War and its impact on the United States be preserved; and

WHEREAS, with the only publicly accessible and fully intact Alert Facility and Weapons Storage Facility in the United States, the National Cold War Center, located at 4701 Memorial Drive on the former Eaker Air Force Base will provide a completely unique and immersive tourist experience; and

WHEREAS, the National Cold War Center will:

(1) Educate a diverse group of tourists on the influence of the Cold War on the history of the United States and the role of Arkansas's military facilities throughout the years; and

(2) Heighten preservation efforts in, and the economic strength of, the Arkansas Delta region which is struggling to maintain balance with the levels of economic growth in other areas of the state,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognizes the need to designate the museum located on the former Eaker Air Force Base the "National Cold War Center".