HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 91-4691, by Representatives Cole, Jacobsen, Rust, Appelwick, Anderson, Ballard, Basich, Beck, Belcher, Betrozoff, Bowman, Braddock, Bray, Brekke, Broback, Brough, Brumsickle, Cantwell, Casada, Chandler, Cooper, Day, Dellwo, Dorn, Ebersole, Edmondson, Ferguson, G. Fisher, R. Fisher, Forner, Franklin, Fraser, Fuhrman, Grant, Hargrove, Haugen, Heavey, Hine, Hochstatter, Holland, Horn, Inslee, P. Johnson, R. Johnson, Jones, J. King, R. King, Kremen, Leonard, Lisk, Locke, Ludwig, May, McLean, R. Meyers, Mielke, Miller, Mitchell, Morris, Morton, Moyer, H. Myers, Nealey, Neher, Nelson, O'Brien, Ogden, Orr, Padden, Paris, Peery, Phillips, Prentice, Prince, Pruitt, Rasmussen, Rayburn, Riley, Roland, Schmidt, Scott, Sheldon, Silver, D. Sommers, H. Sommers, Spanel, Sprenkle, Tate, Valle, Vance, Van Luven, Wang, Wilson, Wineberry, Winsley, Wood, Wynne, Zellinsky

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree graduated from Shorecrest High School and attended Shoreline Community College before going to officer-candidate school in Quantico, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree commanded a Marine observation squadron in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree's OV-10 Bronco observation plane was shot down over Kuwait on January 17, the second day of the War in the Persian Gulf; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree first ejected his injured flying partner, Chief Warrant Officer Guy Hunter, and then parachuted to safety, only to be taken prisoner when he landed in the middle of an Iraqi brigade; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree survived 48 days in an Iraqi prison, which he called the "Baghdad Biltmore," enduring solitary confinement, interrogation, constant beatings, and starvation; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree suffered nerve injuries from his handcuffs and is still being treated for his injuries; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree was put on Iraqi television for propaganda purposes, but managed to turn it around to warn Allied pilots about the dangers of surface-to-air missiles; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Acree's parents, Bill and Delia Acree of Shoreline, and his wife, Cindy, and daughter, Stephany, of Camp Pendleton, California, and his sister and brother-in-law, Bonnie and Don Romain of Seattle, suffered uncertainty and fear, not knowing if he would live through his ordeal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives welcome home Clifford Acree and thank him and his family for the sacrifices they made in defense of democracy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to Lt. Col. Clifford Acree and his wife and daughter, and to his parents, Bill and Delia Acree.

