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## RESOLUTION NO.

**WHEREAS**, Operation Avalanche, the largest amphibious operation by Allied Forces in World War II, landed on the beaches of Paestum, Italy; and,

**WHEREAS**, Operation Avalanche began on September 9, 1943, required nine days of fighting for Paestum’s liberation, and involved more soldiers than D-Day in Normandy, France, yet remains a little-known historical event; and,

**WHEREAS**, Operation Avalanche was spearheaded by Texas’ 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, which endured over 3,000 deaths and casualties during the battle; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Military Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas honors the 36<sup>th</sup> Division’s incredible bravery and sacrifice; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Paestum wishes to further commemorate the Lone Star soldiers on the soil where they fought and died, and not only on the land from which they came; and,

**WHEREAS**, renowned Italian artist Franco Palmentieri has proposed a monument in honor of Texas’ 36<sup>th</sup> Division; and,

**WHEREAS**, the monument pays homage to the key role played by the Texas 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in combating hate and fascism, as well as providing a remembrance of Operation Avalanche; and,

**WHEREAS**, Paestum is also a UNESCO World Heritage site, with three of the world’s best-preserved Doric temples among a multitude of other archaeological riches from over two millennia ago; and,

**WHEREAS**, Austin, the State Capitol of Texas and “Live Music Capital of the World,” offers attractions, museums, and festivals; and,

