S.C.R. No. 52

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A life made rich through meaningful service drew to 3 a close with the passing of U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) 4 James D. Kniker of San Antonio on December 24, 2022, at the age of 5 85; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of Seguin, Jim Kniker was born on December 7 2, 1937, to Theodore Kniker and Alice Steger, and he grew up with 8 three brothers, Ted, Charles, and Kenn; he was president of his 9 graduating class at Seguin High School, and he continued his 10 education at The University of Texas at Austin, where he received a 11 math degree and worked with the Texas Longhorns under the 12 leadership of Coach Darrell Royal; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Kniker served for 23 years in the U.S. Air Force as an aerial navigator; he was an electronic warfare officer on 14 15 Vietnam tours and on Operation Arc Light bombing missions; his medals included the Distinguished Flying Cross for the exceptional 16 skill he demonstrated during a flight on the wave lead aircraft; on 17 a mission programmed against a high priority target belonging to a 18 government, his knowledge and use of electronic 19 hostile counter-measures aided in successfully defending the aircraft and 20 wave against hostile weapons systems and assured the completion of 21 22 the mission by all aircraft; and

23 WHEREAS, Following the Vietnam War, Mr. Kniker obtained a 24 master's degree in computer science from Oklahoma State University;

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1 he later served in NATO Allied Forces Central Europe warfare 2 development, and he became a multinational military educator, 3 helping to enhance war-fighting readiness; moreover, he taught at 4 the Air War College and played a vital role in the integration of 5 computers in professional military education; he retired from the 6 air force at the rank of lieutenant colonel, and he subsequently 7 worked for a defense contractor in the private sector; and

8 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Kniker enjoyed the love 9 and support of his wife, Christine, and he took great pride in his 10 children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; he was known for 11 his wonderful sense of humor, and he touched the lives of those 12 around him with his gentle and caring spirit; and

13 WHEREAS, Deeply dedicated to his family and his country, Jim 14 Kniker earned the lasting respect and admiration of all who were 15 privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the 88th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel 17 (Ret.) James D. Kniker and extend heartfelt condolences to the 18 members of his family: to his wife, Christine Richman; to his 19 20 children, Alison, Chris and his wife, Catherine, Kimberly, Kathy, Nanette, and Tommy; to his grandchildren, Desiree and her husband, 21 22 Derek, Caitlin, Hannah, Brian, and Rebecca; tο his great-grandchildren, Foster and Hattie; and to all others who mourn 23 24 his passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory of

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1 Jim Kniker.

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 52 was adopted by the Senate on May 16, 2023, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 52 was adopted by the House on May 25, 2023, by a rising vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor