

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Too often our everyday heroes are overlooked or  
2 overshadowed by the famous or infamous, although there is little  
3 doubt that these individuals exist in our neighborhoods, churches,  
4 and homes, and it is indeed fulfilling and affirming to have the  
5 opportunity to recognize one such hero; and

6           WHEREAS, On a recent trip to Mexico, potential tragedy was  
7 averted for a Texas teen and her family when 14-year-old Garrett  
8 Mullen of Dallas saved his future stepsister, Whitney Alexander,  
9 from drowning in a secluded swimming hole near Cancun; and

10           WHEREAS, Demonstrating remarkable bravery and sense of  
11 purpose, Garrett sprang into action after Whitney was knocked  
12 unconscious and fell from a 25-foot cliff into the freshwater pool;  
13 in a matter of seconds, she slipped into the murky depths and  
14 settled on the pool's floor, some 40 feet below the surface; and

15           WHEREAS, At great risk to his own safety, Garrett, who has a  
16 background in scuba diving, dove into the water and swam quickly  
17 through the darkness to the bottom; with his lungs burning, he  
18 managed to locate Whitney and bring her to the surface, where he was  
19 aided by other family members attempting to save the 13-year-old;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Despite being unconscious below the water for more  
22 than two minutes, Whitney, the daughter of Tim Alexander and sister  
23 of T. J. Alexander, has experienced a full recovery at her mother's  
24 home in Lubbock; meanwhile, Garrett, a soon-to-be freshman at

1 Parish Episcopal School in Dallas, has earned the admiration of all  
2 who know him for his lifesaving actions; and

3 WHEREAS, Garrett is the son of Debby Mullen and Mike Mullen  
4 and the brother of Chandler Mullen; when not saving lives, he enjoys  
5 an array of sporting activities, including basketball, swimming,  
6 tennis, and biking, and he is also interested in acting and marine  
7 biology; and

8 WHEREAS, Heroism takes many forms, from spontaneous  
9 altruistic behavior to serving one's country in a time of need, and  
10 Garrett has demonstrated that he possesses the courage and spirit  
11 of a true hero; by saving the life of a young girl in distress, he  
12 has brought two families even closer together, strengthening the  
13 bond between the Alexanders and the Mullens with his inspirational  
14 deed; and

15 WHEREAS, Garrett's quick thinking and fast action truly saved  
16 the day for these two families and for the many friends and  
17 relatives who cherish each and every member; his ability to remain  
18 calm in the face of adversity belies his age, demonstrating the  
19 inner strength and maturity possessed by this exemplary young man;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The Alexander and Mullen families are indeed blessed  
22 to share such an outstanding son and sibling, and the memory of that  
23 fateful day in Mexico will long remain in their hearts and minds as  
24 they move forward together into what is sure to be a future filled  
25 with great happiness and joy; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
27 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Garrett Mullen for

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1 his exceptional heroism in a life-threatening situation and extend  
2 best wishes to him, to Ms. Alexander, and to their families for a  
3 safe and happy future; and, be it further

4       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
5 prepared for Mr. Mullen as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
6 House of Representatives.

Goolsby

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
Elkins	Laubenberg	Uresti
Escobar	Leibowitz	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Luna	Veasey
Farrar	Madden	Villarreal
Flores	Martinez	Vo
Flynn	Martinez Fischer	West
Frost	McCall	Wong
Gallego	McClendon	Woolley
Gattis	McReynolds	Zedler

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 300 was adopted by the House on July 13, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House