

By: McCall

H.R. No. 72

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Alex Benson, a 15-year-old Plano resident,
2 miraculously survived a grizzly bear attack while trekking in
3 Alaska with his scout troop in July 2005, and the members of this
4 chamber are pleased to have the opportunity to recognize this
5 fortunate young man; and

6 WHEREAS, A member of Boy Scout Troop 262, Mr. Benson
7 encountered the bear on the last leg of a weeklong, 50-mile hike
8 over Resurrection Pass Trail, south of Anchorage on the Kenai
9 Peninsula; the bear's lightning-fast strike landed Mr. Benson on
10 his back, leaving him at the mercy of one of the world's most
11 ferocious and dangerous mammals; and

12 WHEREAS, Although injured in the attack, Mr. Benson escaped
13 with wounds to only his arm and thigh after gunshots from the .44
14 Magnum of chaperone Mike McFatter caused the bear to flee; fellow
15 scouts Aaron Chapman and Mikey McFatter quickly came to the aid of
16 their injured friend, administering first aid and contacting
17 emergency personnel by cell phone; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Benson underwent minor surgery at Providence
19 Alaska Medical Center after being transported to the facility by
20 helicopter; his frightening ordeal thankfully behind him, he has
21 achieved a degree of fame since returning home, doing several radio
22 and newspaper interviews and visiting the CNN newsroom, and the
23 soon-to-be Vines High School sophomore will undoubtedly have the
24 most compelling story to tell about what he did during his summer

1 vacation when he returns to school in the fall; now, therefore, be
2 it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
4 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend best wishes to Alex
5 Benson for a full and complete recovery from his grizzly bear attack
6 and commend Mike McFatter, Aaron Chapman, and Mikey McFatter for
7 their quick thinking and levelheadedness in an emergency; and, be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for these individuals as an expression of high regard by
11 the Texas House of Representatives.