

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 17

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the heartache felt
2 at the loss of Officer Brian Howard Jackson, a highly valued member
3 of the Dallas Police Department who died in the line of duty on
4 November 13, 2005, at the age of 28; and

5 WHEREAS, Assigned to a patrol group in central Dallas,
6 Officer Jackson had been helping homicide detectives to pursue
7 leads in a case and was completing his shift when he volunteered to
8 investigate a domestic violence incident; on reaching the scene he
9 gave pursuit to the suspect, and in the course of an ensuing gun
10 battle he was mortally wounded; and

11 WHEREAS, A member of the Dallas police force since 2001,
12 Officer Jackson served as a liaison between central patrol and the
13 department's gang unit; he also served as a student resource
14 officer at Lake Highlands Junior High School; and

15 WHEREAS, This outstanding law officer was greatly respected
16 by his colleagues for the passion and dedication he brought to his
17 work, as well as for his proficiency at his job and his desire to
18 help in whatever way he might be able; his concern for others
19 expressed itself in many ways, as in the helping hand he extended
20 without fanfare to those in need; and

21 WHEREAS, The son of a U.S. Navy officer, Brian Jackson was
22 born in Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1976 and grew up on naval bases
23 overseas, as well as in California, Pennsylvania, South Carolina,
24 and Rhode Island; he was a varsity athlete at Portsmouth High School

1 in Rhode Island and a cheerleader at the University of Rhode Island,
2 where he received a degree in sociology in 1999; and

3 WHEREAS, During his years in college, Officer Jackson became
4 certified as an Emergency Medical Technician and then volunteered
5 as an EMT with several organizations; he met JoAnn DeMello, a fellow
6 volunteer and URI student, while serving as an emergency responder,
7 and the couple married on the URI campus in August 2005; and

8 WHEREAS, After graduating from the university, Brian Jackson
9 pursued his dream of becoming a law officer and explored
10 opportunities around the country; ultimately, he turned down an
11 offer from the police force in New York City in order to join the
12 department in Dallas; and

13 WHEREAS, In recognition of his meritorious service, Officer
14 Jackson received numerous commendations, and his name has been
15 added to a memorial for emergency workers who have given their lives
16 while performing their duties; and

17 WHEREAS, Brian Jackson exemplified the qualities that
18 citizens seek in their law enforcement personnel--decency,
19 bravery, professionalism, and a steady resolve in the face of
20 danger; this courageous officer won the esteem and affection of the
21 individuals he worked with on the force and in the community, and
22 his memory will be forever cherished by those who were privileged to
23 share in the warmth of his love and friendship; now, therefore, be
24 it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
26 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the
27 memory of Officer Brian Howard Jackson and extend sincere sympathy

1 to the members of his family: to his beloved wife, JoAnn DeMello
2 Jackson; to his parents, U.S. Navy Captain (Ret.) John Jackson and
3 Valerie Jackson; to his sister, U.S. Air Force Major Gina Jackson;
4 and to his fellow law enforcement officers and all who join in
5 mourning his death; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
8 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Officer
9 Brian Howard Jackson.