

By: Jackson

H.C.R. No. 211

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Officer Brad Freis of the Addison Police Department
2 has long dedicated himself to the mission of the Special Olympics,
3 and, for his humanitarian efforts, he was selected to carry the
4 Flame of Hope in honor of these inspiring athletes at the 2005
5 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Japan; and

6 WHEREAS, This symbolic flame travels to the site of the World
7 Games, where law enforcement officers representing their state,
8 province, or nation act as "Guardians of the Flame," running
9 alongside Special Olympics athletes and carrying the torch to the
10 opening ceremonies; the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) is the
11 world's largest grassroots fund-raiser and public awareness
12 vehicle for the Special Olympics, eliciting more than \$130 million
13 worldwide; and

14 WHEREAS, Officer Freis has been involved with Texas LETR
15 activities since 1998; one of his first projects was the creation of
16 the Arrest-a-Thon program, an entertaining fund-raising event in
17 which Addison civic leaders volunteer to endure the humiliation of
18 a feigned public arrest by a police officer; its first year in 1999
19 brought together 45 area business owners, managers, and employees
20 and raised more than \$18,000, and to date this event has garnered
21 over \$450,000; in September 2004, Officer Freis initiated another
22 successful event, the Addison Business Ironman competition,
23 raising cash and in-kind donations estimated at more than \$65,000;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Empowering its participants to become physically
2 fit and to share in the joys of competition and teamwork, the
3 Special Olympics serves nearly 1.4 million individuals with
4 intellectual disabilities in more than 150 countries; as a true
5 "Guardian of the Flame," Brad Freis has demonstrated his steadfast
6 commitment to this important program and, in so doing, has helped to
7 improve the lives of countless Special Olympics athletes and, in
8 turn, the lives of everyone they touch; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby congratulate Officer Brad Freis on being selected for the
11 honor of carrying the Flame of Hope at the 2005 Special Olympics
12 World Winter Games in Japan and commend him on his selfless
13 contributions in behalf of this worthy cause; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Officer Freis as an expression of high regard by the
16 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.