By: Casteel H.R. No. 216

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal
Tony Leigh Hernandez suffered an immeasurable loss with the death
of this valiant soldier on January 25, 2005, at the age of 22; and

WHEREAS, Deployed in Iraq since July 2004, where he served as a helicopter crew chief, Lance Corporal Hernandez died in the crash of his aircraft near Ar Rutbah, Iraq; and

WHEREAS, This brave young Texan was born on November 25, 1982, and was a 2001 graduate of Smithson Valley High School, where he was active in the Navy ROTC; fulfilling a dream of serving his country, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have men and women whose love for their country inspires them to take up military service, yet the tragic death of this exemplary young man is a sobering reminder of the cost of war; Lance Corporal Hernandez embodied the highest ideals of the U.S. Armed Forces, and those who knew and loved him well will forever carry him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of Lance Corporal Tony Leigh Hernandez and extend profound sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Jacquie Hernandez; to his mother, Janette Trout; to his father and stepmother, LeRoy and Evelyn Hernandez; to his sister, Tracy Mendez, and her husband, Lucky; to his brothers, Christopher Hernandez, and his wife, Amy,

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- 1 and Charlie Hernandez and Staci Stephenson; to his grandparents,
- 2 Darold and Alvena Wingert; to his step-grandparents, Jackie and
- 3 Wilburn Simon; to his stepsister, Melissa Everett, and her husband,
- 4 Jimmy; to his stepbrothers, Robert and Austin Mittelstadt; to his
- 5 mother-in-law, Cindy King; and to the other family members and many
- 6 friends of this beloved young man; and, be it further
- 7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 8 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 9 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lance
- 10 Corporal Tony Leigh Hernandez.