

By: Gattis

H.R. No. 269

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Amy Lynn Donovan, a beloved wife and mother and
2 greatly valued member of the Austin Police Department, lost her
3 life in the line of duty on October 31, 2004, and the heartache felt
4 at her untimely passing has been experienced throughout the
5 community and the ranks of law enforcement officers across the
6 land; and

7 WHEREAS, A 2004 graduate of the Austin Police Academy,
8 Officer Donovan died in a tragic accident while working special
9 duty in East Austin; at the time of the incident, she was pursuing
10 on foot a man she had sought to question; and

11 WHEREAS, Amy Donovan's decision to join the police force took
12 many of her friends by surprise, for it was hard to imagine this
13 sensitive and beautiful woman, a business professional, in the
14 gritty and grueling domain of law enforcement; formerly an
15 investment broker in Manhattan, Officer Donovan had moved with her
16 family to Texas; after working initially as a day trader in Austin,
17 she left the corporate world to open a café in Salado and then a
18 restaurant in Georgetown; and

19 WHEREAS, In December 2003, Amy Donovan joined the 109th cadet
20 class of the Austin Police Department; it was soon evident that she
21 found the challenges and rewards of this new career deeply
22 satisfying, and she impressed her instructors and classmates with
23 her intense desire to excel; more than able to meet the academy's
24 rigorous physical requirements, utterly fearless, and gifted with a

1 remarkable degree of inner strength and common sense, she ranked in
2 the top 10 percent of her 78-member class when she graduated in June
3 2004; and

4 WHEREAS, Officer Donovan requested assignment to East
5 Austin; although a rookie, she demonstrated impressive skill as an
6 interviewer, instinctively knowing what line of questioning she
7 ought to pursue; in time, she surely would have fulfilled her
8 aspiration to achieve the rank of police detective; and

9 WHEREAS, The devoted wife of Terry Donovan, Officer Donovan
10 was also the proud mother of four treasured children; during her
11 journey on this earth, her warmth, kindness, and zest for life
12 brought infinite joy to her family and touched the hearts of a host
13 of friends; and

14 WHEREAS, After her passing, more than a thousand people,
15 including representatives from law enforcement and first responder
16 units from across the state, gathered at St. Helen's Catholic
17 Church in Georgetown to honor Amy Donovan, and her badge, No. 683,
18 was later officially retired; and

19 WHEREAS, Officer Donovan brought to her vocation qualities
20 that are among the most highly prized in law enforcement
21 personnel--decency, bravery, professionalism, and a steady resolve
22 in the face of known and potential danger; the thoughts and prayers
23 of countless citizens go out to her family, with profound gratitude
24 for her selfless dedication to the community and for her exemplary
25 service in its behalf; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
27 Legislature hereby pay special tribute to the life of Amy Lynn

1 Donovan and extend deepest sympathy to the members of her family:
2 to her husband, Terry Donovan; to her children, Chris, Abigail,
3 Amanda, and Chase; and to her other relatives and many friends; and,
4 be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Amy Lynn
8 Donovan.