H.R. No. 519

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Army Specialist 2 Clinton R. Gertson suffered a terrible loss with the death of this 3 brave young soldier in Iraq on February 19, 2005, at the age of 26; 4 and

5 WHEREAS, Inspired to join the army by the events of September 6 11, 2001, Clint Gertson enlisted on January 6, 2003, and completed 7 his original two-year tour of duty in January of this year; although 8 he could have returned home at that time and had already been 9 injured once, this patriotic Texan re-enlisted and was assigned to 10 the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, when he was killed in 11 action while on combat patrol in western Mosul; and

12 WHEREAS, A beloved son and brother, he grew up on his family's 13 farm in Eagle Lake, where he enjoyed hunting, fishing, farming 14 rice, and running cattle; Specialist Gertson was named football 15 lineman of the year and was voted Most Spirited by his senior class 16 at Rice High School; after his graduation in 1998, he went on to 17 pursue his higher education at Wharton County Junior College and 18 McMurry University in Abilene; and

WHEREAS, His warm and ever-present smile, his easygoing nature, and his zest for life endeared him to countless friends, and his thoughtfulness and concern for others touched many hearts; and

22 WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the hardships that he faced in a war 23 zone, Specialist Gertson performed his work with pride and 24 professionalism, his steadfast commitment to his mission made all

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the more firm by a strongly felt desire to help the Iraqi people; his outstanding service earned him a host of accolades, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; and

5 WHEREAS, Through his unwavering dedication to duty, honor, 6 and this country, Clint Gertson embodied the highest ideals of the 7 armed services, and the blessing of his life will be forever 8 treasured by those who were privileged to share in the warmth of his 9 love and friendship; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas Legislature hereby honor the life of Clinton R. Gertson and extend 11 deepest sympathy to his family: to his parents, Gayle and Susan 12 Gertson and Elisa Adams; to his sister, Cori Gertson; to his 13 14 brother, Matt Gertson, and his wife, Jo Lynn; to his niece, Taylor 15 Gertson; to his grandparents, Ralph and JoAnn Gertson, Martha Ayers, and Dick and Darlene Keeter; to his great-grandmother, Pearl 16 17 Ulrich; and to all those who mourn the loss of this beloved young man; and, be it further 18

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 20 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House 21 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Clinton 22 R. Gertson.

## Cook of Colorado

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Craddick Allen of Harris Allen of Dallas Alonzo Anchia Anderson Bailey Baxter Berman Blake Bohac Bonnen Branch Brown of Kaufman Brown of Brazos Burnam Callegari Campbell Casteel Castro Chavez Chisum Coleman Cook of Navarro Cook of Colorado Corte Crabb Crownover Davis of Harris Davis of Dallas Dawson Delisi Denny Deshotel Driver Dukes Dunnam Dutton Edwards Eiland Eissler Elkins Escobar Farabee Farrar Flores Flynn Frost Gallego Gattis

Geren Giddings Gonzales Gonzalez Toureilles Goodman Goolsby Griggs Grusendorf Guillen Haggerty Hamilton Hamric Hardcastle Harper-Brown Hartnett Hegar Herrero Hilderbran Hill Hochberg Hodge Homer Норе Hopson Howard Hughes Hunter Hupp Isett Jackson Jones of Lubbock Jones of Dallas Keel Keffer of Dallas Keffer of Eastland King of Parker King of Zavala Kolkhorst Krusee Kuempel Laney Laubenberg Leibowitz Luna Madden Martinez Martinez Fischer McCall McClendon McReynolds

Merritt Miller Moreno of Harris Moreno of El Paso Morrison Mowery Naishtat Nixon Noriega Oliveira Olivo Orr Otto Paxton Pena Phillips Pickett Pitts Puente Quintanilla Raymond Reyna Riddle Ritter Rodriguez Rose Seaman Smith of Tarrant Smith of Harris Smithee Solis Solomons Strama Straus Swinford Talton Taylor Thompson Truitt Turner Uresti Van Arsdale Veasey Villarreal Vo West Wong Woolley Zedler

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Menendez

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 519 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 24, 2005.

Chief Clerk of the House