

By: Cook of Colorado

H.R. No. 519

R E S O L U T I O N

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

19 WHEREAS, His warm and ever-present smile, his easygoing
20 nature, and his zest for life endeared him to countless friends, and
21 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

1 the more firm by a strongly felt desire to help the Iraqi people;
2 his outstanding service earned him a host of accolades, including
3 the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Global War on Terrorism
4 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
11 Legislature hereby honor the life of Clinton R. Gertson and extend
12 deepest sympathy to his family: to his parents, Gayle and Susan
13 Gertson and Elisa Adams; to his sister, Cori Gertson; to his
14 brother, Matt Gertson, and his wife, Jo Lynn; to his niece, Taylor
15 Gertson; to his grandparents, Ralph and JoAnn Gertson, Martha
16 Ayers, and Dick and Darlene Keeter; to his great-grandmother, Pearl
17 Ulrich; and to all those who mourn the loss of this beloved young
18 man; and, be it further

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.