H.R. No. 695

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Houston firefighter Captain Grady Burke of Texas
City died in the line of duty on February 19, 2005, at the age of 39,
and the tragic passing of this heroic individual has deeply
saddened the community he served; and

WHEREAS, Born on January 31, 1966, to Don and Sue Burke in Houston, Grady Burke grew up attending Sun Valley Church of Christ and graduated from South Houston High School in 1984; he then attended the College of the Mainland Firefighting Academy and, after serving for four years with the Texas City Fire Department, joined the Houston Fire Department, becoming captain in 2003; he was an expert driver who trained other firefighters at the national driving course, and last year he received a unit medal of valor for rescuing a trapped victim from a house fire; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, this outstanding public servant established a record of meritorious service, loyalty, personal courage, and self-sacrifice consistent with the highest ideals of the firefighting profession; and

WHEREAS, A humble, fun-loving family man, Captain Burke loved spending time with his wife, Cindy, whom he met and married in 1992, and their three children; he enjoyed taking the kids to the park and having tickle fights, and he also cherished the time spent with his close friend, Greg Brooks; as longtime pals, Mr. Burke and Mr. Brooks called themselves twin sons of different mothers; they both married women named Cindy, had three children, and served as

- 1 captains in the Houston Fire Department; and
- WHEREAS, Mr. Burke was a devoted Christian and member of the
- 3 Southeast Church of Christ in Friendswood; he was an integral part
- 4 of the Children's Ministry, the praise team, and semiannual family
- 5 campouts, where you could find him encouraging people to have fun;
- 6 he also led prayers in church assembly and was the featured speaker
- 7 at this year's Father Daughter Banquet; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Grady Burke was a passionate defender of life and
- 9 property, and while he will be greatly missed, the legacy of
- 10 character, dedication, and bravery he leaves behind will not soon
- 11 be forgotten; now, therefore, be it
- 12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
- 13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Captain Grady Burke
- 14 and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his
- 15 wife, Cindy; to his daughters, Hannah and Hailey; to his son,
- 16 Hunter; to his parents, Don and Sue Burke; to his sister, Karen
- 17 Stubblefield and her husband, Lyndall; to his brother, Paul Burke
- 18 and his wife, Cheryl; to his close friends, Greg Brooks, Darren
- 19 Schaffer, and Mark Mayfield; to his nieces and nephews, Kristen and
- 20 Chase Havens, Kendall and Kinsey Stubblefield, Jesse and Jenna
- 21 Burke, Philip and Joshua Burke, Sarah and Ryan Taylor, and Stephen
- 22 and Katherine Davis; and to the other family and many friends of
- 23 this fine man; and, be it further
- 24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Captain
- 27 Grady Burke.

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Bohac Hamilton Oliveira Hamric Olivo Bonnen Branch Hardcastle Orr Brown of Kaufman Brown of Brazos Harper-Brown Otto Hartnett Paxton Pena Hegar Burnam Callegari Phillips Herrero Campbell Hilderbran Pickett Casteel Hill Pitts Castro Hochberg Puente Chavez Hodge Quintanilla Chisum Homer Raymond

Coleman Норе Reyna Cook of Navarro Cook of Colorado Hopson Riddle Howard Ritter Corte Rodriguez Hughes Crabb Hunter Rose Crownover Hupp Seaman

Davis of Harris Isett Smith of Tarrant Davis of Dallas Jackson Smith of Harris

Jones of Lubbock Smithee Dawson Jones of Dallas Delisi Solis Denny Keel Solomons Keffer of Dallas Keffer of Eastland King of Parker Deshotel Strama Driver Straus Swinford Dukes Dunnam King of Zavala Talton Kolkhorst Taylor Dutton Edwards Krusee Thompson Eiland Kuempel Truitt Eissler Turner Laney Elkins Laubenberg Uresti

Escobar Leibowitz Van Arsdale Farabee Luna Veasey Farrar Madden Villarreal Flores Martinez Vo Flynn Martinez Fischer West

Frost McCall Wong
Gallego McClendon Woolley
Gattis McReynolds Zedler

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 695 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 8, 2005.

Chief Clerk of the House