

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A little over 10 years ago, some of the worst  
2 atrocities in the history of mankind took place in the African  
3 country of Rwanda, and although the events passed largely unnoticed  
4 by the rest of the world, a true hero emerged from that terrible  
5 carnage and he is Paul Rusesabagina; and

6           WHEREAS, In April 1994, Mr. Rusesabagina was the acting  
7 manager of the luxury Mille Collines hotel in the capital city of  
8 Kigali when the Hutu militia began brutally killing their Tutsi  
9 neighbors; incited by the assassination of Rwandan president  
10 Juvenal Habyarimana, Hutu extremist politicians blamed Tutsi  
11 rebels for their leader's death and the streets were quickly filled  
12 by Hutu militia, who killed the Tutsi business and political elite  
13 before turning to ordinary citizens; and

14           WHEREAS, At its peak, the genocide claimed 8,000 lives per  
15 day, and before it was over, it is estimated that somewhere between  
16 800,000 and one million Rwandans were murdered; and

17           WHEREAS, More than 1,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus found a  
18 safe haven in Mr. Rusesabagina's hotel, which he turned into an  
19 impromptu refugee camp; the hotel had no defense against attacks,  
20 but with exceptional courage and conviction, this ordinary  
21 businessman managed to hold off the encroaching violence for 11  
22 harrowing weeks and save the lives of most of the people he  
23 sheltered, including his own wife and children; and

24           WHEREAS, Now a businessman in Belgium, Mr. Rusesabagina

1 served as a special consultant on the 2004 United Artists film,  
2 *Hotel Rwanda*, which was inspired by his remarkable story; this  
3 powerful and moving motion picture earned three Academy Award  
4 nominations, including one for actor Don Cheadle, who played Mr.  
5 Rusesabagina in the movie; and

6 WHEREAS, A recipient of Amnesty International's Enduring  
7 Spirit award and the Immortal Chaplains Foundation Prize for  
8 Humanity, Mr. Rusesabagina continues to be involved in charity  
9 organizations aiding survivors of the Rwandan tragedy and has set  
10 up the Hotel Rwanda Rusesabagina Foundation to further help the  
11 relief effort; and

12 WHEREAS, In these complex times, it is often difficult to do  
13 the right thing, but Paul Rusesabagina's inspiring story teaches us  
14 that it is possible for one man to make a profound difference if he  
15 is willing to put the welfare of others before his own; it is indeed  
16 a privilege to welcome Mr. Rusesabagina to the State Capitol; now,  
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
19 Legislature hereby honor Paul Rusesabagina for his extraordinary  
20 humanitarianism and extend to him sincere best wishes for an  
21 enjoyable visit to Texas; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
23 prepared for Mr. Rusesabagina as an expression of high regard by the  
24 Texas House of Representatives.

Coleman

Craddick	Geren	Menendez
Allen of Harris	Giddings	Merritt
Allen of Dallas	Gonzales	Miller
Alonzo	Gonzalez Toureilles	Moreno of Harris
Anchia	Goodman	Moreno of El Paso
Anderson	Goolsby	Morrison
Bailey	Griggs	Mowery
Baxter	Grusendorf	Naishtat
Berman	Guillen	Nixon
Blake	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hamric	Olivo
Branch	Hardcastle	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Paxton
Burnam	Hegar	Pena
Callegari	Herrero	Phillips
Campbell	Hilderbran	Pickett
Casteel	Hill	Pitts
Castro	Hochberg	Puente
Chavez	Hodge	Quintanilla
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Coleman	Hope	Reyna
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Colorado	Howard	Ritter
Corte	Hughes	Rodriguez
Crabb	Hunter	Rose
Crownover	Hupp	Seaman
Davis of Harris	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	Jackson	Smith of Harris
Dawson	Jones of Lubbock	Smithee
Delisi	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Denny	Keel	Solomons
Deshotel	Keffer of Dallas	Strama
Driver	Keffer of Eastland	Straus
Dukes	King of Parker	Swinford
Dunnam	King of Zavala	Talton
Dutton	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Edwards	Krusee	Thompson
Eiland	Kuempel	Truitt
Eissler	Laney	Turner
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

H.R. No. 1082

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1082 was adopted by the House on April 11, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House