

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The friends and family of Texas Army National Guard
2 Sergeant First Class Tommy I. Folks, Jr., suffered an immeasurable
3 loss with the death of this valiant soldier on October 18, 2005, at
4 the age of 31; and

5 WHEREAS, Sergeant Folks was killed while bravely serving his
6 country during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq, as a member of
7 Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 142nd Infantry; and

8 WHEREAS, A longtime resident of Amarillo, Sergeant Folks
9 graduated from Amarillo High School, where he was a member of the
10 National Honor Society, manager of the basketball team, and a
11 two-year letterman in soccer; he went on to attend the University of
12 North Texas before joining the U.S. Army in 1994; and

13 WHEREAS, During his military career, he served in Germany
14 with the 7th Army Training Command, where his ability and
15 determination earned him the title of Soldier of the Year 1998; he
16 later served in Afghanistan before transferring to the Texas
17 National Guard; and

18 WHEREAS, This beloved son and brother remained devoted to
19 serving his country despite the dangerous nature of his mission;
20 his heroic efforts earned him a posthumous promotion to the
21 position of sergeant first class as well as a number of accolades,
22 including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with
23 four Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal with one Oak Leaf
24 Cluster, and National Defense Service Medal; and

1 WHEREAS, Before his final deployment, Sergeant Folks had
2 enrolled at West Texas A&M in Canyon; a member of the school's
3 President's Honor Roll, he was studying to become a teacher and
4 coach; and

5 WHEREAS, Exemplifying the highest ideals of the U.S. armed
6 forces, Tommy Folks inspired others with his fortitude, tenacity,
7 and courage; although his passing leaves a void in the lives of
8 those who were fortunate to know him, they will forever carry
9 memories of this heroic Texan close in their hearts; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Tommy I. Folks and
13 extend sincere sympathy to all those who mourn the passing of this
14 courageous Texan; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sergeant
18 First Class Tommy I. Folks, Jr.

Smithee

Craddick	Gattis	Miles
Allen	Geren	Miller
Alonzo	Giddings	Moreno
Anchia	Gonzales	Morrison
Anderson	Gonzalez Toureilles	Mowery
Aycock	Goolsby	Murphy
Bailey	Guillen	Naishtat
Berman	Haggerty	Noriega
Bohac	Hamilton	O'Day
Bolton	Hancock	Oliveira
Bonnen	Hardcastle	Olivo
Branch	Harless	Orr
Brown of Kaufman	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Brazos	Hartnett	Otto
Burnam	Heflin	Parker
Callegari	Hernandez	Patrick
Castro	Herrero	Paxton
Chavez	Hilderbran	Pena
Chisum	Hill	Phillips
Christian	Hochberg	Pickett
Cohen	Hodge	Pierson
Coleman	Homer	Pitts
Cook of Navarro	Hopson	Puente
Cook of Colorado	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Corte	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Crabb	Hughes	Riddle
Creighton	Isett	Ritter
Crownover	Jackson	Rodriguez
Darby	Jones	Rose
Davis of Harris	Keffer	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Parker	Smith of Harris
Delisi	King of Taylor	Smithee
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Solomons
Driver	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dukes	Krusee	Straus
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Latham	Talton
Eiland	Laubenberg	Taylor
Eissler	Leibowitz	Thompson
Elkins	Lucio III	Truitt
England	Macias	Turner
Escobar	Madden	Van Arsdale
Farabee	Mallory Caraway	Vaught
Farias	Martinez	Veasey
Farrar	Martinez Fischer	Villarreal
Flores	McCall	Vo
Flynn	McClendon	West
Frost	McReynolds	Woolley
Gallego	Menendez	Zedler
Garcia	Merritt	Zerwas

H.R. No. 735

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 735 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 28, 2007.

Chief Clerk of the House