

By: Madden

H.R. No. 862

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot express the heartache felt at the loss
2 of U.S. Army First Lieutenant Ryan T. Sanders, who died on June 4,
3 2006, at the age of 27, while serving in Iraq; and

4 WHEREAS, Assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment,
5 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, based at Fort Hood,
6 First Lieutenant Sanders was killed when his Abrams tank was hit by
7 a roadside bomb in Baghdad; and

8 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Sanders graduated in 1997 from Berkner
9 High School in Richardson and went on to study English at Texas A&M
10 University, where he earned both his bachelor's and master's
11 degrees; moved to make a positive contribution to the world, he
12 joined the army in June 2004 and subsequently attended officer
13 training school at Fort Benning, Georgia; commissioned as a second
14 lieutenant, he quickly rose to the rank of first lieutenant and
15 served as a tank platoon leader after being deployed to Iraq in
16 December 2005; he drew inspiration from his family's legacy of
17 military service, including his brothers, Jeff Sanders, who served
18 during the Gulf War, and Captain Greg Sanders, who serves in the
19 army; and

20 WHEREAS, As a youth, Lieutenant Sanders attained the
21 prestigious Eagle Scout badge and was an active member of First
22 Baptist Church of Richardson, along with his high school
23 sweetheart, Jennifer Graham, whom he married in 2001; a Shakespeare
24 aficionado and an animal and outdoors lover, he took great pleasure

1 in the company of his dogs, Storm and Daisy; and

2 WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have young men
3 and women whose love of country leads them to military duty, and
4 time can never diminish the profound debt that Americans owe to Ryan
5 Sanders for the service he undertook and the sacrifice he rendered;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The thoughts and prayers of many go out to the family
8 of this beloved young man; he was a soldier of honor and valor, and
9 those who were fortunate to share in the blessing of his life will
10 forever carry him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of First Lieutenant Ryan
13 T. Sanders and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:
14 to his wife, Jennifer Graham Sanders; to his parents, Jim and Kay
15 Sanders; to his brothers, Mike Sanders, Jeff Sanders, and Greg
16 Sanders and his wife, Heather; to his grandparents, Truett and
17 Joyce Sanders; to his nieces, McKenna and Allison Sanders; and to
18 his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of First
22 Lieutenant Ryan T. Sanders.