

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 2157

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jordan "Bear" Barrett of Columbia High School in
2 West Columbia has become the strongest lifter in Texas High School
3 Powerlifting Association history with a grand total of 2,005 total
4 pounds in the 2007 state meet; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Barrett's lift smashed the 17-year-old record of
6 2,000 pounds set in 1991 by Olympic weightlifter Mark Henry, the
7 self-proclaimed World's Strongest Man of World Wrestling
8 Entertainment; moreover, Mr. Barrett's lift represents the highest
9 total by any Division I, II, or III lifter in the 25-year history of
10 powerlifting; and

11 WHEREAS, This highly motivated young man was named the
12 Division II Texas High School Powerlifting State Meet Champion in
13 2006, and he successfully defended his title in March 2007 to claim
14 his second state championship; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Barrett became interested in powerlifting
16 during his years in junior high school, and he began actively
17 pursuing the sport during his freshman year at Columbia High
18 School; he won several varsity meets and placed fourth in the
19 regional 275-pound class as a freshman, and he won the regional
20 tournament and placed second in the state tournament as a
21 sophomore; and

22 WHEREAS, During his junior year, Mr. Barrett won every meet
23 he attended, and in his gold-medal performance at the state meet, he
24 was 300 points ahead of his closest competitor; he also set

1 association records as he squatted 760 pounds, bench pressed 500
2 pounds, and deadlifted 615 pounds; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Barrett moved up to the super heavyweight class
4 as a senior and annihilated the competition by winning most meets by
5 at least 200 pounds; at the state meet, he set a new Division II
6 state squat record with 820 pounds and a new bench press record of
7 525 pounds on his way to being named state champion; and

8 WHEREAS, Achieving such an ambitious goal has required
9 tremendous motivation and dedication, and Mr. Barrett has spent an
10 extraordinary amount of time in his high school weight room working
11 on strength and conditioning under the tutelage of Coach Leland
12 Surovik; and

13 WHEREAS, This young champion has also distinguished himself
14 as a formidable force on the football field and as a shot put and
15 discus competitor on the school track team; he is a school leader
16 and role model through his affiliation with the PALS program, and he
17 is recognized as a young man who represents the best qualities found
18 in Texas high school students; and

19 WHEREAS, In his outstanding high school career, Bear Barrett
20 has helped create a sense of pride among the students and faculty of
21 Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District, bringing
22 considerable attention to the district's sports program, and his
23 success is indeed an inspiration to many people in Brazoria County;
24 now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate Jordan "Bear" Barrett on his
27 achievements in powerlifting and extend best wishes to him for

1 continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for Mr. Barrett as an expression of high regard by the
4 Texas House of Representatives.