

By: Branch

H.C.R. No. 11

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Gymnast Nastia Liukin of Parker brought great honor
2 to the United States of America by winning five medals in the
3 gymnastics competition at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing; and

4 WHEREAS, In a masterful demonstration of her grace and
5 athletic ability, Ms. Liukin claimed the gold medal in the Women's
6 Individual All-Around Final and added two silver medals and one
7 bronze medal in individual events as well as a silver medal in the
8 team competition; her success equals the record for the most medals
9 won by a U.S. gymnast in one Olympics and is the latest achievement
10 in her exceptional career; and

11 WHEREAS, Anastasia Liukin was born on October 30, 1989, in
12 Moscow, Russia; her mother, Anna, was a world champion in rhythmic
13 gymnastics while her father, Valeri, won two gold medals and two
14 silver medals at the 1988 Olympic Games as a member of the Soviet
15 gymnastics team; the family moved to the United States when Nastia
16 was two years old, and she began competing at age six; throughout
17 her career, she has been coached by her father, a founder of the
18 World Olympic Gymnastics Academy located in the Dallas-Fort Worth
19 area, where Ms. Liukin continues to train; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2005, she began competing at the senior
21 international elite level and that same year won the national
22 all-around title and was world champion in two events; her progress
23 was slowed the following year when she suffered a serious ankle
24 injury, but she battled back in 2007 and claimed the world title on

1 the balance beam; in June 2008 at the Visa Championships, she won
2 two events and finished second in the all-around competition to set
3 the stage for her Olympic appearance in Beijing; and

4 WHEREAS, After joining with her fellow U.S. gymnasts to place
5 second in the team competition on August 13, Ms. Liukin achieved her
6 greatest triumph two days later, when she was crowned the
7 all-around Olympic champion; this victory was made even sweeter by
8 the fact that her father had narrowly missed winning the all-around
9 title 20 years earlier in the 1988 Olympics; in the days that
10 followed, she also earned a bronze medal in floor exercise and
11 silver medals in the balance beam and uneven bars events; and

12 WHEREAS, The Olympics stand as one of the most prominent
13 athletic showcases in the world and offer a rare opportunity for
14 athletes to represent their home nations as they strive for
15 excellence; with her amazing performances in Beijing, Nastia Liukin
16 won the admiration of countless people around the globe, and she
17 stands as a notable addition to the outstanding athletic tradition
18 of the United States of America; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
20 hereby congratulate Nastia Liukin on winning five medals in the
21 gymnastics competition at the 2008 Olympic Games and that she be
22 extended sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for Ms. Liukin as an expression of high regard by the Texas
26 House of Representatives and Senate.