

By: Paxton

H.R. No. 280

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Phil Taylor of Frisco has turned his artistic talent
2 to a patriotic purpose through the American Fallen Soldiers
3 Project; and

4 WHEREAS, Founded by Mr. Taylor and his wife, Lisa, this
5 nonprofit organization presents families with portraits of their
6 loved ones who have died in service to our country; the artist
7 volunteers his labor and materials are paid for by the
8 organization, which has given portraits to more than two dozen
9 families; and

10 WHEREAS, The project grew out of a tragedy that touched the
11 Taylor family in 2007; a friend of their youngest daughter was
12 killed in a motorcycle accident shortly before his high school
13 graduation, and Mr. Taylor decided to paint a portrait of the young
14 man for his parents; their heartfelt gratitude inspired him to
15 offer solace to a friend whose brother had been killed in Iraq by
16 painting a portrait of the brave captain; and

17 WHEREAS, Recognizing that there are many families grieving
18 the loss of service members, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor established the
19 Texas Fallen Soldiers Project; eventually, word of the program
20 spread, and they began receiving requests for portraits from around
21 the country; they changed the name of the organization to reflect
22 its wider reach and are building their staff and raising funds
23 through such events as a golf tournament and honors banquet; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor apprenticed under noted visual artist

1 Brad Smith and has painted numerous commissioned portraits; by
2 sharing his gifts with Gold Star families, he has not only provided
3 consolation but also created lasting memorials to honor the lives
4 of those who made the ultimate sacrifice; the American Fallen
5 Soldiers Project is an inspirational expression of respect and
6 profound appreciation for our military heroes and their families;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
9 Legislature hereby honor Phil Taylor for his contributions and
10 commend all those associated with the American Fallen Soldiers
11 Project for their patriotism and compassion; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the American Fallen Soldiers Project as an expression
14 of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.