

By: McReynolds

H.R. No. 483

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt by  
2 family and friends at the loss of U.S. Army Second Lieutenant  
3 Zachary Ryan Cook of Lufkin, who died on January 12, 2009, at the  
4 age of 22; and

5           WHEREAS, On December 12, 2008, this outstanding young Texan  
6 graduated from Texas A&M University as a member of the Army Reserve  
7 Officers' Training Corps and received his commission as a second  
8 lieutenant in the United States Army; he was waiting to report for  
9 officer training when he was killed in the crash of a Black Hawk  
10 helicopter during a field exercise at College Station; and

11           WHEREAS, Zac Cook was born in Lufkin to David and Becky Cook  
12 on March 4, 1986; he was a 2004 graduate of Lufkin High School,  
13 where he was an all-star catcher on the baseball team and was voted  
14 "Best Personality" by his class; and

15           WHEREAS, A proud Aggie, Lieutenant Cook was a member of the  
16 Corps of Cadets, Company D-1, and the Brazos Union Masonic Lodge No.  
17 129 in Bryan; he was also a member of Parson's Mounted Cavalry,  
18 serving as the section chief responsible for firing the cannon  
19 during Texas A&M football games and other events; and

20           WHEREAS, Lieutenant Cook was an enthusiastic and  
21 knowledgeable outdoorsman who loved to hunt and fish with his  
22 brother, David; he pursued his love of the natural world at Texas  
23 A&M and earned his degree in wildlife and fisheries sciences; he  
24 will also be remembered as a tough competitor and a loyal teammate

1 on the baseball diamond; and

2 WHEREAS, A natural leader and a true patriot, Zac Cook  
3 succeeded in achieving his dream of becoming an officer in the  
4 service of his nation; although his life has ended far too soon, the  
5 memory of his honesty, courage, determination, and compassion will  
6 live forever in the hearts of all those who knew and loved him; now,  
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
9 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Army Second  
10 Lieutenant Zachary Ryan Cook and extend sincere condolences to the  
11 members of his family: to his parents, David and Becky Cook; to his  
12 brother, Second Lieutenant David Cook, Jr.; to his grandparents,  
13 Loyd and Nelda Cook; and to his other relatives and many friends;  
14 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 Lieutenant  
18 Zachary Cook.