

By: Pitts

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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Graham Harrell of Texas Tech University completed
2 his final year of college football with the 2008-2009 season,
3 bringing an end to a stellar career that distinguished him as one of
4 the top quarterbacks in the college ranks; and

5 WHEREAS, A native Texan born in Brownwood, Mr. Harrell hails
6 from a family with a strong gridiron tradition, and he drew on the
7 knowledge passed down by his father and grandfather, both of whom
8 have been high school coaches; he received his first widespread
9 attention while playing for his dad's Ennis High School team, and by
10 the time he graduated, he had set the state records for
11 single-season and career passing yardage and garnered numerous
12 awards; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell chose to don the Red Raiders uniform for
14 his college career and first took the field in 2005; by the
15 following season, he was emerging as a top-flight quarterback,
16 throwing for more than 4,500 yards and 38 touchdowns; his skills
17 proved to be a perfect match for Tech's high-caliber spread
18 offense, and during his junior year in 2007, the numbers went even
19 higher; he tallied 5,705 passing yards, the most in the nation, and
20 led the Red Raiders to a 9-4 season and a victory in the Gator Bowl;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Continuing his masterful work in his senior year,
23 Mr. Harrell helped engineer Tech's bid for the national title and
24 its dramatic victory over the number one-ranked University of Texas

1 team; at season's end, the statistics gave a fuller picture of Mr.
2 Harrell's achievements at Texas Tech: he had become the first
3 quarterback to have two 5,000-yard passing seasons, he had set the
4 NCAA record for the most career touchdown passes at 134, and his
5 15,429 total passing yards made him the second most productive
6 quarterback in college history; and

7 WHEREAS, Graham Harrell garnered several top honors in 2008,
8 including the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award that is presented to
9 the nation's best senior quarterback and the AT&T All-America
10 Player of the Year designation; these accolades are representative
11 of the great respect that he has earned during his college career,
12 and his inspired play will be remembered by sports fans in the Lone
13 Star State for years to come; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
15 Legislature hereby congratulate Graham Harrell on his exceptional
16 performance with the Texas Tech football team and extend to him
17 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Mr. Harrell as an expression of high regard by the
20 Texas House of Representatives.