

By: Miller of Erath

H.R. No. 2773

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The friends and family of United States Army  
2 Specialist Donald Allen Burkett of Comanche suffered an  
3 immeasurable loss with the death of this valiant soldier on March  
4 10, 2008, at the age of 24, while serving his country in Iraq; and

5           WHEREAS, A proud member of the 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored  
6 Cavalry Regiment, based at Fort Hood, Specialist Burkett was killed  
7 when his vehicle hit an improvised explosive device in Balad Ruz;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, "Wesley" Burkett was born in Brownwood on January  
10 27, 1984; he attended Zephyr High School, where he participated in  
11 UIL academic competition, and went on to Ranger Junior College; he  
12 married the former Brandi Peel on December 18, 2005, and joined the  
13 army in April 2006 as an armor crewman; this devoted family man  
14 bought a house in Killeen for his wife and their son and spent as  
15 much time as possible with them before his deployment to Iraq in  
16 November 2007; and

17           WHEREAS, Known for his positive attitude, quiet  
18 intelligence, and endearing smile, Specialist Burkett was deeply  
19 committed to providing a good life for his family, and was looking  
20 forward to furthering his education in order to advance in his  
21 military career; he was a member of the VFW Killeen Chapter and  
22 received a number of decorations, including the National Defense  
23 Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Army Service  
24 Medal, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart; and

1           WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have young men  
2 and women whose love of country leads them to military duty, and the  
3 passage of time can never diminish the profound debt that Americans  
4 owe to Wesley Burkett for the service he undertook and the sacrifice  
5 he rendered; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Specialist Donald  
8 Allen Burkett and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his  
9 family: to his wife, Brandi Burkett; to his son, Mason Burkett; to  
10 his mother, Carolyn Gray; to his brothers, Jayson Brown and Wayne  
11 Burkett; to his grandmother, Linnie Faye Gray; to his  
12 mother-in-law, Amy Bailey; and to his other relatives and friends;  
13 and, be it further

14           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Wesley  
17 Burkett.