H.C.R. No. 47

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

- 1 WHEREAS, Words cannot express the heartache felt at the loss
- 2 of U.S. Army Private First Class Ira Benjamin Laningham IV of
- 3 Zapata, who died in Afghanistan on January 7, 2011, at the age of
- 4 22; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Private Laningham enlisted in the army in November
- 6 2009, deploying to Afghanistan in October 2010; he bravely served
- 7 his country as a member of the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry
- 8 Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, and his
- 9 courageous actions earned him the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple
- 10 Heart, and the National Defense Service Medal; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, on
- 12 September 1, 1988, Ben Laningham graduated from Zapata High
- 13 School, where he was trumpet section leader in the marching band and
- 14 lead trumpet for Mariachi Halcon; he enjoyed playing his guitar and
- 15 video games and spending time with his family and friends; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Americans owe a profound debt to our nation's
- 17 servicemen and servicewomen, whose courageous efforts and enormous
- 18 sacrifices are deserving of their fellow citizens' deepest respect
- 19 and gratitude; through his unwavering dedication to duty and honor,
- 20 Ben Laningham embodied the highest ideals of the United States
- 21 Army, and memories of his love and friendship will forever be
- 22 cherished by all those who held him dear; now, therefore, be it
- 23 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
- 24 hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Army Private First Class Ira

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- 1 Benjamin Laningham IV and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
- 2 his family: to his wife, Stephanie A. Laningham; to his parents,
- 3 Norma and Enrique Cantu; to his siblings, Private Joseph Cantu,
- 4 Enrique Cantu, and Amanda Cantu; to his grandparents, Lauro and
- 5 Olinda Guerra and Humberto and Felicitas Cantu; and to his other
- 6 relatives and many friends; and, be it further
- 7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 8 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 9 Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory
- 10 of Private Ira Benjamin Laningham IV.

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| Speaker of the House |
| unanimously adopted by a rising |
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| Chief Clerk of the House |
| unanimously adopted by a rising |
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| Secretary of the Senate |
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