

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 47

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

1 Benjamin Laningham IV and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
2 his family: to his parents, Norma and Enrique Cantu; to his
3 siblings, Private Joseph Cantu, Enrique Cantu, and Amanda Cantu; to
4 his grandparents, Lauro and Olinda Guerra and Humberto and
5 Felicitas Cantu; and to his other relatives and many friends; and,
6 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.