

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jake Shea Jenkins of the Lubbock Fire Department
2 passed away on March 27, 2011, at the age of 40, bringing a great
3 loss to the community and to his family, fellow firefighters, and
4 many friends; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Rockdale on September 30, 1970, Mr. Jenkins
6 was the son of Kirby and Dorothy Jenkins; he demonstrated musical
7 aptitude as a small child singing at family gatherings, and when a
8 fifth-grade teacher encouraged him to take up an instrument, his
9 father made him a banjo; at ease with any stringed instrument, he
10 mastered the guitar, mandolin, and upright bass as well; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Jenkins studied bluegrass music at South Plains
12 College and became a certified luthier; after graduating in 1992,
13 he worked at Collings Guitars in Austin and played banjo on a
14 part-time basis with the Karl Shiflett and Big Country Show; he
15 began touring the country as a full-time member of the band in 1996
16 and helped shape its sound with his Western-tinged style; in
17 addition, he wrote the group's No. 1 bluegrass hit "Worries on My
18 Mind," which also reached the top 10 on the Texas music charts, and
19 he penned the popular songs "Cold, Cold Love" and "Turn Around"; and

20 WHEREAS, On December 14, 1996, he married Rhonda Smith, and
21 the couple later became the parents of three treasured children,
22 Eli, Maggie, and Ella; although Mr. Jenkins gave up touring with his
23 band to spend more time with his young family, he continued to share
24 his musical gifts as a member of the group Hickory Hill; and

25 WHEREAS, This multitalented Texan completed state training

1 at South Plains College Fire Academy in 2004 and joined the Lubbock
2 Fire Department in January 2005; promoted to equipment operator in
3 2008, he drove fire engine No. 14 and was a certified rescue diver
4 and member of the dive rescue team; his dedication,
5 professionalism, and natural exuberance won the admiration and
6 affection of his colleagues; and

7 WHEREAS, An avid outdoorsman, Mr. Jenkins served as a hunting
8 guide and enjoyed boating, fishing, gardening, and repairing
9 vintage trucks and recreational vehicles; he especially loved
10 tinkering with his plane and piloting it to work or to performances
11 from his home in Dickens, and he was in the process of building a log
12 cabin; and

13 WHEREAS, Jake Jenkins was devoted to his family and his
14 community, and he brought joy and laughter to innumerable people;
15 although his life ended far too soon, those he left behind will
16 forever treasure their memories of time spent in his company; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jake Shea Jenkins and
20 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
21 wife, Rhonda Jenkins; to his children, Eli Jenkins, Maggie Marie
22 Jenkins, and Ella Rose Jenkins; to his brother, Jason Jenkins; and
23 to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jake Shea
27 Jenkins.

Perry

H.R. No. 1274

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1274 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on April 21, 2011.

Chief Clerk of the House