H.R. No. 2783

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, William F. Taylor III was instrumental in the 2 passage of House Bill 2038, requiring Texas schools to establish a 3 protocol for dealing with student-athletes suspected to have 4 sustained a concussion; and

5 WHEREAS, The legislation, which was authored by State 6 Representative Four Price, has been named "Natasha's Law" in honor 7 of Natasha Helmick, whose soccer career ended after she suffered 8 five concussions in four years; involved in the sport since age 9 four, she earned a scholarship to play for Texas State University, 10 but a medical evaluation changed the course of her path; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor's efforts in behalf of this bill included 12 testifying before the House Committee on Public Health, discussing 13 its importance with numerous members of the legislature, and 14 attending a press conference at the Capitol shortly after the bill 15 was introduced in the House; and

WHEREAS, Head athletic trainer at Mesquite High School for 36 16 years, "Bucky" Taylor also served as the trainer at the Mesquite 17 Independent School District's Special Olympics local meets; his 18 research into concussions and the development of Mesquite's 19 20 return-to-play policy for athletes were featured on Dan Rather 21 Reports in 2010; he now works as an itinerant trainer in Mesquite 22 ISD and as a consultant to the Sports Medicine Clinic of North Texas 23 in Dallas; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor served as president of the Southwest

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1 Athletic Trainers' Association in 2002 and 2003 and was on the 2 founding committee of the North Texas Athletic Trainer Society; the 3 recipient of many awards and honors and a member of the SWATA Hall 4 of Fame, he has shared his time and talents with the University 5 Interscholastic League's advisory council, Internet task force, 6 and communications committee; and

7 WHEREAS, Deeply concerned about the health and well-being of 8 student-athletes, Bucky Taylor contributed to his fellow citizens 9 with his outstanding advocacy for Natasha's Law, and Representative 10 Price expresses his gratitude for Mr. Taylor's role in achieving 11 this notable legislative victory; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas Legislature hereby honor William F. "Bucky" Taylor for his successful efforts to heighten awareness of the dangers associated with concussion sustained by student-athletes and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

Price

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2783 was adopted by the House on May 30, 2011, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House