

By: Price

H.R. No. 2784

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Current and former members of the National Football
2 League, including NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, were
3 instrumental in the passage of House Bill 2038, requiring Texas
4 schools to establish a protocol for dealing with student-athletes
5 suspected to have sustained a concussion; and

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

12 WHEREAS, From the outset, Mr. Goodell wrote to 44 governors
13 encouraging action be taken to protect young athletes from
14 concussions, and after Representative Price introduced H.B. 2038
15 in the Texas House, Joe Browne, chief government affairs specialist
16 for the NFL, and Robert Jones, a former NFL player, both spoke at a
17 Capitol press conference in support of the bill; Mr. Browne later
18 testified before the House Committee on Public Health, along with
19 N. D. Kalu, another former NFL player, while Mr. Jones testified
20 before the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services; and

21 WHEREAS, All deeply concerned about the health and well-being
22 of student-athletes, these esteemed professionals called vital
23 attention to the seriousness of concussion injuries and the need
24 for early medical intervention, and Representative Price expresses

1 his gratitude for their assistance in achieving this notable
2 legislative victory; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
4 Legislature hereby honor Roger Goodell, Joe Browne, Robert Jones,
5 and N. D. Kalu for their efforts to heighten awareness of the
6 dangers associated with concussion sustained by student-athletes
7 and extend to them sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Mr. Goodell, Mr. Browne, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Kalu as
11 an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.