

By: Raney

H.R. No. 251

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A superb Lone Star athlete set a new standard of
2 excellence when Johnny Manziel of Texas A&M University was named
3 the winner of the 2012 Heisman Trophy, becoming the first freshman
4 ever to earn that prestigious award; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Manziel's recognition as the top college player
6 in the nation followed his exceptional debut season as the
7 quarterback of the Aggies; with his gutsy determination and
8 outstanding abilities as a playmaker, he earned the admiration of
9 everyone who witnessed his thrilling gridiron achievements, and he
10 soon became known by the nickname that sums up his no-nonsense
11 approach to the game: "Johnny Football"; and

12 WHEREAS, The son of Paul and Michelle Manziel, Johnathan Paul
13 Manziel was raised in Kerrville, where he was a standout
14 quarterback at Tivy High School; he gained national recognition as
15 a senior and was voted Player of the Year in a national coaches
16 poll; he received a scholarship from Texas A&M University and won
17 the starting quarterback job before the start of the 2012 season;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, With his pinpoint throws and elusive running,
20 Mr. Manziel ignited the Aggie offense, and he was especially
21 effective at darting downfield for long gains, leaving defenders
22 scattered in his wake; his breakout performance came in his second
23 game, when he racked up six touchdowns to defeat Southern Methodist
24 University, and Texas A&M went on to tally a total of 217 points

1 while winning its next four contests; and

2 WHEREAS, One of the biggest highlights for this phenomenal
3 freshman came in the showdown with undefeated and No. 1-ranked
4 Alabama on November 10; playing with cool composure in the national
5 spotlight, he directed his team to 20 first-quarter points, and the
6 Aggies knocked off the Crimson Tide by a score of 29-24; and

7 WHEREAS, Over the course of the 2012 campaign, Mr. Manziel
8 rewrote the record books; he is the first freshman and only the
9 fifth person in NCAA history to compile 3,000 passing yards and
10 1,000 rushing yards in a season; in addition, he holds the
11 Southeastern Conference game and season records for most total
12 yardage, and he set new Texas A&M marks for total yards, rushing
13 yards by a quarterback, and passing yards in a single game; and

14 WHEREAS, After leading the Aggies to 10 triumphs in the
15 regular season, Mr. Manziel took the field alongside his teammates
16 for the 77th Cotton Bowl Classic on January 4, 2013; he guided the
17 squad to a resounding 41-13 win over Oklahoma, as he established a
18 new Cotton Bowl mark for total yardage while scoring four
19 touchdowns; Mr. Manziel also set a Football Bowl Subdivision record
20 for rushing by a quarterback in a bowl game after gaining 229 yards,
21 and he was named the game's Offensive Most Valuable Player;
22 moreover, when his bowl-game scores were added to his regular
23 season statistics, he set a new Texas A&M record for rushing TDs in
24 a season and earned the distinction of being only the fourth FBS
25 quarterback to record 20 rushing and 20 passing touchdowns in the
26 same year; and

27 WHEREAS, In becoming the second Aggie to win the Heisman

1 Trophy, Johnny Manziel has joined the most elite fraternity in
2 college football, and his accomplishment is a source of great pride
3 and excitement to his countless fans in the Lone Star State; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Johnny Manziel on winning the 2012
7 Heisman Trophy and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
8 success; and, be it further

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