

By: Menendez

H.R. No. 486

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Kelley Hurley and Courtney Hurley of San Antonio
2 earned great distinction for their community, their state, and
3 their nation with their medal-winning performance in fencing at the
4 2012 Summer Olympics in London; and

5 WHEREAS, In a masterful demonstration of skill and agility,
6 the Hurley sisters joined with teammate Maya Lawrence to capture
7 the bronze medal in the women's team epee event with a thrilling
8 31-30 overtime victory against Russia; Kelley aided the U.S. cause
9 with a convincing 4-1 victory in the fifth bout; Courtney scored in
10 the last 30 seconds of regulation to draw the squad even, then made
11 a daring lunge just 16 seconds into overtime to land the decisive
12 touch that gave the United States a spot on the podium; and

13 WHEREAS, These talented Texans took up their chosen sport as
14 young girls thanks to the guidance of their parents, Robert and
15 Tracy Hurley, who had originally met at a fencing club;
16 demonstrating the fast reflexes and calm nerves necessary to excel,
17 the girls were soon competing regularly in Texas and Oklahoma, and
18 each went on to win national titles in the 10-year-old,
19 12-year-old, and 14-year-old divisions; and

20 WHEREAS, Kelley Hurley further demonstrated her precocious
21 talent at the age of 14, when she took the top prize at the Junior
22 National Championships, defeating a number of far-older opponents;
23 three years later, she became the first American to earn the epee
24 title at the Cadet World Championships, and she capped off her

1 junior career at the age of 20 by capturing the Junior World
2 Championship; in 2008, she made her Olympic debut, representing the
3 United States at the Beijing games; a graduate of the University of
4 Notre Dame, she was selected as an All-American three times during
5 her collegiate career and served as cocaptain of the women's epee
6 team as a senior; and

7 WHEREAS, Courtney Hurley followed closely in her sister's
8 footsteps, appearing in her first international competition at age
9 14 and securing her own Cadet World Championship title when she was
10 16; she won the Junior Olympic and USA National championships in
11 consecutive years and was the overall points champion on the Junior
12 World Cup circuit during the 2009-2010 season; currently a student
13 at Notre Dame, she is a two-time All-American and the 2010 winner of
14 the school's Knute Rockne Student-Athlete Award; and

15 WHEREAS, Throughout their pursuit of athletic excellence,
16 the sisters have benefited from the tireless efforts of their
17 parents as well as the generous assistance of a number of other key
18 supporters; Patricia Hill, their high school principal, and Bill
19 Hill, their guidance counselor, have been avid boosters and were
20 instrumental in helping both young women to succeed in their
21 athletic and academic endeavors at Notre Dame; moreover, the late
22 Paul Pesthy coached the athletes for many years, and his wife,
23 Carolyn, aided their progress in numerous ways; and

24 WHEREAS, Earning an Olympic medal is an exceptional
25 achievement that many strive to attain but few accomplish; Kelley
26 and Courtney Hurley's success in London has placed them among the
27 elite of their sport, and these young women are a proud addition to

1 the roll call of exceptional athletes who have hailed from the Lone
2 Star State; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate Kelley Hurley and Courtney Hurley
5 on winning bronze medals in the women's team epee competition at the
6 2012 Summer Olympics in London and extend to them sincere best
7 wishes for the future; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
9 for Kelley and Courtney Hurley as an expression of high regard by
10 the Texas House of Representatives.