

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Junior Filikitonga was inducted into the
2 Hurst-Eules-Bedford Sports Hall of Fame on February 16, 2013, in
3 recognition of his notable contributions to local athletics; and

4 WHEREAS, Since 1995, the H-E-B Sports Hall of Fame has paid
5 tribute to individuals and teams who have made a positive impact in
6 the community through sports-related endeavors; the hall was
7 created to acknowledge successful teams and athletes as well as
8 officials, administrators, trainers, medical practitioners, media
9 figures, and others who have distinguished themselves with their
10 achievements; and

11 WHEREAS, Junior Filikitonga attended Midway Park Elementary
12 and Central Junior High in Eules before becoming a standout
13 athlete at Trinity High School; he earned all-district and
14 all-region honors in track-and-field and football, qualified for
15 the state meet in the shot put and discus, and was chosen to play in
16 a North-South All-Star football game as a result of his exceptional
17 performance as a defensive end for the Trojans; and

18 WHEREAS, Continuing his football career at the collegiate
19 level, Mr. Filikitonga was named an All-American while playing at
20 Tyler Junior College; he then joined the Abilene Christian
21 University team for two seasons, during which he became the fifth
22 all-time leading tackler for the Wildcats and earned several
23 significant accolades; in 1997, he was selected as the Lone Star
24 Conference Defensive Lineman of the Year and a first team

1 All-American, and the following year he became a finalist for the
2 Harlon Hill Trophy, given to the NCAA Division II player of the
3 year; and

4 WHEREAS, When an injury cut short his professional football
5 career, Mr. Filikitonga returned to Abilene Christian as an
6 assistant coach for two years and also volunteered as a youth
7 football coach; in addition, he has become active in the sport of
8 mixed martial arts, both as a competitor and a coach; and

9 WHEREAS, Junior Filikitonga's many accomplishments have
10 helped advance the proud tradition of athletic excellence in the
11 Hurst-Eules-Bedford school system and beyond, and he is indeed
12 deserving of this prestigious honor; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate Junior Filikitonga on his
15 induction into the Hurst-Eules-Bedford Sports Hall of Fame and
16 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. Filikitonga as an expression of high regard by the
19 Texas House of Representatives.

Stickland

H.R. No. 999

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 999 was adopted by the House on March 27, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House