

By: Stickland

H.R. No. 999

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.