

R E S O L U T I O N

1       WHEREAS, The family and friends of U.S. Army Sergeant Robert  
2 John Billings suffered an immeasurable loss with the death of this  
3 brave young soldier in Afghanistan on October 13, 2012, at the age  
4 of 30; and

5       WHEREAS, Sergeant Billings was assigned to the 5th Battalion,  
6 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd  
7 Infantry Division, out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington;  
8 he served a tour of duty in Iraq from September 2009 to August 2010  
9 before his deployment to Afghanistan in December 2011; during  
10 combat operations in Spin Boldak, Sergeant Billings suffered fatal  
11 wounds when his unit was attacked by insurgents using an improvised  
12 explosive device; and

13       WHEREAS, The son of Kelly and Hope Billings of Amarillo,  
14 Robert Billings was born in Ventura, California, and graduated from  
15 Morley Stanwood High School in Deerfield Township, Michigan, where  
16 he ran track and played safety on the football team; following in a  
17 military tradition established by his grandfather, a Korean War  
18 veteran, and his father, who is retired from the U.S. Navy,  
19 Sergeant Billings joined the U.S. Army in January 2006 and reported  
20 to basic training as an infantryman at Fort Benning, Georgia; over  
21 the course of his career, he earned numerous awards and citations,  
22 including the Army Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Unit  
23 Citation, and the National Defense Service Medal; and

24       WHEREAS, A determined and likable young man with a ready

1 smile, Robert Billings was a loving husband to his wife, Christy,  
2 and a devoted father to his daughters, Kaili and Naomi, and his  
3 sons, Isaiah and Elijah; and

4 WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have men and  
5 women whose love of country inspires them to serve, yet the tragic  
6 death of this brave soldier is a sobering reminder of the cost of  
7 freedom; Sergeant Billings exemplified the highest ideals of the  
8 U.S. armed forces, and those who knew him will forever carry him  
9 close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of U.S. Army Sergeant  
12 Robert John Billings and extend deepest sympathy to the members of  
13 his family: to his wife, Christy; to his children, Kaili, Naomi,  
14 Isaiah, and Elijah; to his parents, Kelly and Hope Billings; to his  
15 sisters, Heather Billings and Deleina Wilcox; to his brother, Chad  
16 Billings; to his grandparents, Kelly and Elaine Billings and Johnny  
17 and Inez Smith; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it  
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of U.S. Army  
22 Sergeant Robert John Billings.

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H.R. No. 3157

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 3157 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 27, 2013.

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Chief Clerk of the House