

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 121

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Texas athletes have a long history of excelling at
2 the highest levels of competition, and Clint Dempsey of the United
3 States Men's National Team furthered that tradition with his
4 exemplary performance at the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Dempsey shined throughout the tournament,
6 starting all four of the USMNT matches and scoring two crucial goals
7 from his forward position; in the process, he helped the United
8 States advance out of the group stage and into the Round of 16,
9 while becoming the first American player to score in three
10 consecutive World Cups; and

11 WHEREAS, This superb athlete tallied his first goal in the
12 team's opening match against Ghana, evading his defender in the
13 penalty area and placing a perfect shot inside the goalposts to give
14 the U.S. a lead just 32 seconds into the contest; Mr. Dempsey also
15 displayed rare grit and determination by remaining on the field
16 after suffering a broken nose late in the first half, as the U.S.
17 won by a score of 2-1; in the ensuing matchup with Portugal, he
18 deftly controlled a crossing pass from teammate Graham Zusi in the
19 81st minute and put the ball in the back of the net for a late
20 go-ahead goal; and

21 WHEREAS, A member of the national team since 2004,
22 Mr. Dempsey has been recognized for his efforts during
23 international competition with a number of accolades, including
24 three U.S. Soccer Male Athlete of the Year awards and three Futbol

1 de Primera Player of the Year awards; in addition, he has been named
2 Man of the Match on several occasions, and he won the prestigious
3 FIFA Bronze Ball at the 2009 Confederations Cup for his attacking
4 style of play; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Dempsey was a standout performer on the
6 Nacogdoches High School soccer team, and he went on to achieve
7 notable success in college as an All-American midfielder and
8 forward for Furman University; he was drafted in 2004 by Major
9 League Soccer's New England Revolution, where he scored 25 goals in
10 three seasons before continuing his professional career overseas
11 with the Fulham Football Club and the Tottenham Hotspurs Football
12 Club of the English Premier League; in 2013, he returned to the U.S.
13 and his MLS roots by transferring to the Seattle Sounders Football
14 Club, leading the team to a berth in the MLS Cup Playoffs; and

15 WHEREAS, Clint Dempsey has distinguished himself as one of
16 the finest footballers to ever wear the red, white, and blue, and
17 his accomplishments on the game's biggest stage are a source of
18 great pride and excitement for his many fans across the country and
19 in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
21 Legislature hereby congratulate Clint Dempsey on his performance as
22 a member of the United States Men's National Team at the 2014 FIFA
23 World Cup and extend to him best wishes for continued success; and,
24 be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for Mr. Dempsey as an expression of high regard by the
27 Texas House of Representatives.