

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Ennis High School football team reached the
2 pinnacle of success by winning the University Interscholastic
3 League 5A Division 2 state championship on December 19, 2014, at
4 AT&T Stadium in Arlington; and

5 WHEREAS, Matching up against the squad from Cedar Park High
6 School in the state final, the Lions jumped out to an early lead in
7 the first quarter but found themselves trailing by four points at
8 halftime; the teams traded the lead back and forth in the third
9 quarter, but Cedar Park appeared to have the game in hand after
10 scoring late in the fourth quarter and then recovering a fumble on
11 the ensuing kickoff; the Ennis defense held strong, however,
12 stalling the Cedar Park drive and forcing a missed field goal; that
13 turned the ball back over to the offense with only 1:29 left to play
14 and 80 yards to go for the win; in a crucial third-and-long
15 situation, the Lions pulled off a surprising hook-and-ladder play
16 to gain a first down and advance into Cedar Park territory; on the
17 following play, quarterback Devin Smith threw a strike to wide
18 receiver Donta Thompson, who fought his way into the end zone to
19 clinch a dramatic 38-35 victory for Ennis High School; and

20 WHEREAS, The team's thrilling triumph in the title game
21 brought to a close a memorable season in which the Lions dropped
22 their first two contests before reeling off 14 consecutive wins;
23 moreover, the team claimed the school's fifth state football
24 championship, and its first since 2004; and

1 WHEREAS, Excelling with a true team effort, the Lions
2 received valuable contributions from each member of the roster in
3 their championship quest; these gifted student-athletes benefited
4 throughout the year from the guidance and expertise of head coach
5 Jack Alvarez and his staff as well as from the passionate support of
6 the Ennis community; and

7 WHEREAS, In becoming one of the select teams in the Lone Star
8 State to earn the mantle of state champion, the Ennis Lions have
9 furthered their school's tradition of excellence on the gridiron,
10 and this accomplishment is indeed worthy of special recognition;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby congratulate the Ennis High School football team
14 on winning the UIL 5A Division 2 state championship and extend to
15 the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for the
16 future; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas
19 House of Representatives.

Wray

H.R. No. 500

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 500 was adopted by the House on March 12, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House