

By: Moody

H.R. No. 664

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The untimely passing of Lawrence Tyler Francis on
2 November 24, 2014, at the age of 29, brought an immeasurable loss to
3 the many people who were fortunate enough to share in the life of
4 this extraordinary young Texan; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso on March 6, 1985, to Rick and Ginger
6 Francis, Tyler Francis graduated with a bachelor's degree in
7 organizational communication from The University of Texas at El
8 Paso and subsequently earned an MBA from Texas Tech University in
9 2011; and

10 WHEREAS, The son of a bank chairman and the grandson of a
11 former El Paso mayor, Mr. Francis surprised many when he chose to
12 pursue a career in aviation; he developed a passion for flying early
13 on, building radio-controlled airplanes at the age of 10 and
14 purchasing his first plane in graduate school; he gained invaluable
15 experience working at Blue Feather Aero, a fixed-base operator at
16 the Doña Ana County International Jetport in Santa Teresa, New
17 Mexico, and he bought the company in December 2012, renaming it
18 Francis Aviation; under his leadership, the enterprise thrived and
19 quickly expanded its operations to the Las Cruces International
20 Airport; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Francis further distinguished himself through
22 his contributions to his community; he served on the boards of the
23 Doña Ana County International Jetport, the War Eagles Air Museum,
24 and the Amigo Airsho and on the Boy Scouts of America Yucca Council;

1 he was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the
2 General Society of Mayflower Descendants; and

3 WHEREAS, Always eager for a new challenge or adventure,
4 Mr. Francis enjoyed countless hours of hiking, camping, and skiing,
5 and he looked back on his climb past Advanced Base Camp on Mount
6 Everest as one of his most exhilarating experiences; his enthusiasm
7 and positive outlook called forth the best in everyone around him,
8 and his warmth, kind spirit, and natural charm seldom failed to
9 brighten their days; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Francis devoted himself to a wide range of
11 pursuits, but he treasured the moments he spent with his family
12 above all else; on October 30, 2013, he exchanged wedding vows with
13 the love of his life, Sara Paben; their relationship was a source of
14 much happiness and fulfillment to him, and he was anticipating the
15 arrival of their first child, Tyler Elizabeth-Jean Francis, in
16 March 2015; and

17 WHEREAS, Although his years on this earth were far too few,
18 the joy that Tyler Francis brought to his loved ones will never be
19 forgotten, and the example of his life will forever inspire them to
20 seize each day and to reach boldly for their dreams; now, therefore,
21 be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Tyler Francis and
24 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
25 wife, Sara Francis; to his parents, Rick and Ginger Francis; to his
26 sister, Lauren Steinmann, and her husband, John; to his
27 grandparents, Doris and Rollo Gurss and Marilyn and Larry Francis;

1 to his parents-in-law, Nancy and John Paben; and to his many other
2 relatives and friends; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tyler
6 Francis.