

By: Israel

H.R. No. 706

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at
2 the loss of Senior Deputy Jessica Hollis of the Travis County
3 Sheriff's Office, who died in the line of duty on September 19,
4 2014, at the age of 35; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in San Antonio on April 21, 1979, the former
6 Jessica Laura Wright graduated from Winston Churchill High School
7 in 1997 and went on to attend Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi
8 and to study marine biology at Texas State University-San Marcos;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, While serving as emergency medical technicians in
11 San Antonio, she and her colleague Ricky Hollis fell in love, and
12 they continued to work together as paramedics in Calhoun County for
13 five years; the couple moved to Austin following their acceptance
14 into the Austin Police Academy and became only the second married
15 couple to graduate from the academy; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Hollis went on to work for the Austin Police
17 Department and the Travis County Parks Department, and she was
18 eventually recruited by the Travis County Sheriff's Office; over
19 the course of her seven-year tenure there, she served with great
20 distinction as a patrol officer, a field training officer, a vice
21 officer, and a senior deputy sheriff; in addition, she earned
22 certification as a master scuba diver and was recognized with the
23 Unit Citation Award for her efforts with the department's
24 Underwater Recovery Team; moreover, she was nominated as the 2010

1 Officer of the Year by the American Legion; and

2 WHEREAS, Above all else, Ms. Hollis found true fulfillment in
3 moments shared with her loved ones; she delighted in traveling and
4 diving with her son, Mason, and she and her mother, Vicki, nurtured
5 their close bond through volunteering at animal rescue shelters and
6 browsing in vintage shops; and

7 WHEREAS, Jessica Hollis upheld the highest standards of her
8 profession, and although she will be deeply missed, those who were
9 privileged to share in the richness of her life will forever cherish
10 their memories of her warmth, her generosity, and her profound
11 commitment to public service; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Senior Deputy Jessica
14 Hollis and extend sincere condolences to the members of her family:
15 to her husband, Ricky Hollis; to her son, Mason Hollis; to her
16 mother, Vicki Wright; to her stepfather, Bill Wright, and his
17 partner, Eva Lee; to her father, Rick Hall, and his wife, Dale
18 Freeman; to her siblings, Wade Wright, Crystal Fulfer and her
19 husband, Weston, Katherine Lively and her husband, Billy, and
20 Taylor Hall and his wife, Bianca; to her grandmother, Jessie Hall;
21 to her mother-in-law, Melody Hollis; and to her other relatives and
22 many friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jessica
26 Hollis.