

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A life filled with meaningful service drew to a  
2 close with the passing of Senior Chief Petty Officer (Ret.) Terry  
3 Bruce Burkett of Dublin, Texas, on May 9, 2015, at the age of 69; and

4           WHEREAS, The youngest child of Edith Gabel and Lowell  
5 Burkett, Terry Burkett was born in Le Mars, Iowa, on April 26, 1946;  
6 he graduated from Cooper High School in Abilene in 1964 and enlisted  
7 to serve his country as a member of the U.S. Navy; in the course of a  
8 distinguished military career that spanned more than 22 years, he  
9 completed three tours of duty in Vietnam as a naval aircrewman and  
10 logged more than 6,000 flight hours as an aircrew chief; he received  
11 numerous accolades for his service, including the Air Medal, two  
12 Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals, two Navy  
13 Meritorious Unit Commendations, the Battle Effectiveness Award,  
14 and five Good Conduct Medals; and

15           WHEREAS, After retiring, Mr. Burkett worked tirelessly in  
16 behalf of his fellow veterans, serving as commander and  
17 quartermaster of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3377 in Manchaca and  
18 as an active member of the Texas Association of Vietnam Veterans and  
19 the Vietnam Veterans of America; and

20           WHEREAS, In one of Mr. Burkett's most notable efforts to  
21 honor former members of the armed forces, he spent eight years on  
22 the Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument Executive Committee;  
23 his dedicated support for the project also included service as  
24 chair of the Veterans Outreach Committee, monitoring production and

1 casting of the bronze sculpture, maintaining a list of over 600  
2 donors who contributed to the initiative, and helping construct an  
3 educational companion website; moreover, he was a member of the  
4 Groundbreaking and Dedication Ceremony Subcommittees and  
5 participated in a historic reading of the names of all 3,417 Texans  
6 who were killed or went missing in Vietnam; and

7       WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Mr. Burkett enjoyed the  
8 love and support of his wife, Karen, and he was the proud father of  
9 four children, Christopher, Kelly, Jeffrey, and Lowell, and four  
10 stepchildren, Franklin, Charles, Douglas, and Samantha; over the  
11 years, his family grew to include 20 grandchildren and 3  
12 great-grandchildren; and

13       WHEREAS, A respected military veteran who devoted himself to  
14 ensuring that service members were properly honored for their  
15 sacrifice, Terry Burkett touched many lives during his journey on  
16 this earth, and those who had the good fortune to know him will  
17 forever hold him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
19 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Senior Chief Petty  
20 Officer (Ret.) Terry Bruce Burkett and extend sincere sympathy to  
21 the members of his family: to his wife, Karen Ayn Burkett; to his  
22 children, Christopher Leigh Burkett, Kelly Ann Fanelli, Jeffrey  
23 Allen Burkett, and Lowell David Burkett; to his stepchildren,  
24 Franklin James Barnard, Charles Michael Barnard, Douglas Gene  
25 Moore, and Samantha Kay Graham; to his 20 grandchildren and 3  
26 great-grandchildren; to his sisters, Marge Barnhill and Linda  
27 Smith; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it

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1 further

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

Smith  
King of Taylor

Straus	González	Otto
Allen	Guerra	Paddie
Alonzo	Guillen	Parker
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Paul
Anchia	Harless	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Phillips
Ashby	Howard	Pickett
Aycock	Huberty	Price
Bell	Hughes	Raney
Bernal	Hunter	Raymond
Blanco	Isaac	Reynolds
Bohac	Israel	Riddle
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Travis
Burns	Keough	Romero, Jr.
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Rose
Button	King of Parker	Sanford
Canales	King of Taylor	Schaefer
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schofield
Clardy	Klick	Schubert
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smith
Dale	Leach	Smithee
Darby	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Springer
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stephenson
Deshotel	Márquez	Stickland
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	McClendon	Tinderholt
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Collin
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Harris
Farias	Miles	Turner of Tarrant
Farney	Miller of Comal	VanDeaver
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Villalba
Fletcher	Minjarez	Vo
Flynn	Moody	Walle
Frank	Morrison	White of Bell
Frullo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Galindo	Murphy	Workman
Geren	Murr	Wray
Giddings	Naishtat	Wu
Goldman	Nevárez	Zedler
Gonzales	Oliveira	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2956 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 27, 2015.

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Chief Clerk of the House