

By: Price

H.R. No. 3495

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Members of the American Gold Star Mothers from  
2 across the United States are joining together on September 25,  
3 2016, to commemorate Gold Star Mother's Day, in remembrance of the  
4 sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of  
5 their nation; and

6           WHEREAS, Established in 1929, American Gold Star Mothers is a  
7 nonprofit organization composed of mothers of U.S. service members  
8 killed in action during times of war or conflict; the group takes  
9 its name from the tradition of displaying a service flag to  
10 represent each family member in the military, with blue stars for  
11 living members and gold stars symbolizing those who perished in  
12 battle; Gold Star Mothers help perpetuate the memory of their loved  
13 ones by hosting remembrance events, doing volunteer work at  
14 veterans' hospitals, and spreading a message of respect and  
15 reverence for members of the armed forces; and

16           WHEREAS, Gold Star Mother's Day is observed each year on the  
17 last Sunday in September, and the occasion is marked by a  
18 proclamation from the President of the United States asking all  
19 Americans to display the Stars and Stripes and to express  
20 condolences and appreciation to Gold Star Mothers and their  
21 families; and

22           WHEREAS, In tribute to the 3,417 Texans who died during the  
23 Vietnam War, Texas Gold Star Mother Oleta Smith of Dumas attended  
24 the dedication of the Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument in

1 March 2014; there, Mrs. Smith laid a wreath on behalf of all Texas  
2 Gold Star Mothers who lost someone in Vietnam, and in memory of her  
3 son, U.S. Army Sergeant James Warren Smith; and

4 WHEREAS, Our state and nation are fortunate to have men and  
5 women whose patriotism and commitment to duty have led them to take  
6 up military service, and it is indeed fitting at this time that we  
7 pause in heartfelt tribute to those Americans who have given their  
8 lives to protect our freedom as well as to those who continue to  
9 honor their sacrifice; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate Gold Star Mother's Day 2016 and  
12 extend profound sympathy to all Texas families who have lost a loved  
13 one in service to our country.