

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 523

In Memory
of
Jefferson Jones Baskin

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of Jefferson Jones Baskin, who died March 25, 2015, at the age of 48; and

WHEREAS, J. J. Baskin was born on June 21, 1966, in Midland; he dedicated his life to improving education in the state and gained nationwide recognition for his extensive public and philanthropic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, He settled in Austin after earning a bachelor's degree in political science at Trinity University in San Antonio, and he later earned a master's degree at the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baskin actively supported political candidates who promoted education in Texas; he served as director of the Texas Lyceum, a nonpartisan group dedicated to education, and as a director of Public Agenda, a national nonprofit organization that helps diverse leaders and citizens navigate complex social issues; and

WHEREAS, He became one of the state's leading experts in philanthropy by promoting private and nonprofit partnerships, and he gained national recognition as a lecturer at conferences on issues such as strategic planning and best practices for fund-raising; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baskin was a loving husband and father who put family and faith above all things; he was a longtime member of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Austin, where he served in several leadership positions; and

WHEREAS, From membership in his children's Parent Teacher Association to work with national foundations, Mr. Baskin was committed to improving the quality of public education; he was respected for his integrity and compassion, and his valiant fight against cancer was inspirational; he leaves behind memories that will long be cherished by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Jefferson Jones Baskin; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jefferson Baskin.

Watson

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 8, 2015, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate