

By: Meyer

H.R. No. 358

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow caused by
2 the loss of United States Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Joshua
3 Michael Snowden of Dallas, who died while serving his country on
4 July 10, 2017, at the age of 31; and

5 WHEREAS, The son of Gay Hayslett and Michael Snowden, Josh
6 Snowden, who was also known as "Snow" by his many friends, was born
7 in Abilene on July 22, 1985; he grew up in the Dallas area and played
8 lacrosse as a student at Highland Park High School; following
9 graduation in 2004, he decided to defer college for a while and
10 enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve; he subsequently
11 continued his education at Texas State University, where he played
12 on the men's lacrosse team; and

13 WHEREAS, After completing his bachelor's degree in 2010,
14 Staff Sergeant Snowden embarked on a career in the military; he was
15 called to active duty in July 2012 and became a flight instructor
16 and engineer for KC-130T model planes; deployed twice to Iraq, he
17 earned 16 medals and awards, including the Global War on Terrorism
18 Expeditionary Medal; while based with his squadron at Stewart Air
19 National Guard Base in Orange County, in New York, he demonstrated
20 pride in his Texas roots by maintaining a wardrobe full of Dallas
21 Cowboys jerseys, cowboy boots, cowboy hats, and Texas flag
22 button-down shirts; and

23 WHEREAS, In his spare time, Josh Snowden enjoyed grilling
24 steaks, working on his truck, and listening to Texas country music,

1 preferably all at the same time; over the years, he brightened the
2 days of everyone he encountered with his irresistible smile, joyous
3 sense of humor, and wonderful gift for storytelling; this
4 great-hearted young man was sustained by a strong religious faith,
5 and he was a valued member of the Church of the Incarnation; and

6 WHEREAS, Josh Snowden was deeply devoted to his friends and
7 his family, whose members included, in addition to his mother and
8 his father, his "second father," Rick Hayslett, his sister, Sara,
9 his brothers, Drew, Tyler, Greg, and Bryan, and an older brother,
10 Eric, who predeceased him; and

11 WHEREAS, Serving with honor, courage, and dedication, Josh
12 Snowden embodied the highest ideals of the United States armed
13 forces, and he will be forever cherished by those who were
14 privileged to share in his love and affection; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
16 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the memory
17 of Staff Sergeant Joshua Michael Snowden and extend sincere
18 condolences to his loved ones and to all those who mourn his
19 passing; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of U.S. Marine
23 Corps Staff Sergeant Joshua Michael Snowden.