

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the untimely loss of
2 Christopher Nicol McGowen, who died on March 2, 2017, at the age of
3 47; and

4 WHEREAS, Chris McGowen was born in Wiesbaden, Germany, on
5 April 2, 1969, to Olene and John McGowen; he was interested in
6 politics from an early age and served in student government and
7 other groups while attending S. R. Butler High School in
8 Huntsville, Alabama, and while earning his bachelor's degree in
9 communications at Auburn University; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1992, Mr. McGowen moved to Washington, D.C.,
11 where he worked for the *Booknotes* program on C-SPAN and then served
12 as a congressional staffer, including a stint as deputy press
13 secretary to former U.S. representative J. C. Watts of Oklahoma;
14 in 1996, he joined his father in a business venture affiliated with
15 the Atlanta Olympics, and he later worked in communications in
16 Atlanta for Cohn & Wolfe, Turner, and the Georgia Chamber of
17 Commerce, among others; in 2004, he returned to Washington, D.C.,
18 where he worked in government affairs for Novo Nordisk, Omada
19 Health, and the Insulet Corporation; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. McGowen made friends readily and maintained
21 many friendships throughout his life; he also pursued innumerable
22 interests, including stylish clothing, military history, college
23 football, fishing, and grilling; a man of strong religious faith,
24 he was a valued member of Center Grove United Methodist Church in

1 Huntsville; and

2 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. McGowen enjoyed the love
3 and support of his wife, Kristi Barksdale; and

4 WHEREAS, Although his days were far too few, Chris McGowen
5 embraced life to the fullest, and he will forever remain a vibrant
6 presence for those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Christopher Nicol
9 McGowen and extend heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family:
10 to his wife, Kristi; to his mother, Olene McGowen; to his brother,
11 Carl McGowen; to his parents-in-law, Bob and Carol Barksdale; to
12 his sister-in-law, Erin Terry, and her husband, Dedric; and to his
13 other relatives and friends; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Chris
17 McGowen.

Craddick

H.R. No. 881

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 881 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 23, 2017.

Chief Clerk of the House