

By: Springer

H.R. No. 894

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Jake Merrell of Valley High School was honored as
2 the 2016 Track Athlete of the Year by the Panhandle Sports Hall of
3 Fame at a ceremony held on February 12, 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the past two years, Mr. Merrell has
5 distinguished himself in his performances at the University
6 Interscholastic League Track & Field State Meet, earning three
7 individual gold medals, collecting a silver medal as part of a
8 Valley High relay squad, and setting two state records; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Merrell earned his first gold medal as a
10 freshman in 2015, when he won the 1A 800-meter race with a time of 1
11 minute, 57.05 seconds; the following year, he was crowned the
12 champion of the 800 meters again and set a new 1A state record time
13 of 1 minute, 55.11 seconds; later that same evening, he claimed
14 another gold medal and broke a second record by finishing the
15 1,600-meter race in 4:22.60; in addition, he anchored his school's
16 4x400-meter relay team, which finished second at the meet; and

17 WHEREAS, Just two years into his high school track career,
18 Jake Merrell has established himself as an exceptional runner who
19 is furthering the proud athletic tradition of the Panhandle region,
20 and he is indeed deserving of this prestigious accolade; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
23 Legislature hereby congratulate Jake Merrell on his selection as
24 Track Athlete of the Year by the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame and

1 extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Merrell as an expression of high regard by the
5 Texas House of Representatives.