

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The life and career of a true son of the Lone Star
2 State has drawn to a close with the death of actor and native Texan
3 Powers Boothe, who passed away on May 14, 2017, at the age of 68; and

4 WHEREAS, Powers Allen Boothe was born in Snyder on June 1,
5 1948, to Merrill Vestal and Kathryn Boothe; he grew up baling hay
6 and picking cotton on his father's West Texas farm, but he surprised
7 his family and friends in high school by quitting the football team
8 and taking up acting; the first person in his family to go to
9 college, he studied at Southwest Texas State University and earned
10 a master's degree in drama from Southern Methodist University in
11 1972; and

12 WHEREAS, For the first 10 years of his career, Mr. Boothe was
13 a Shakespearean actor, performing first with the Oregon Shakespeare
14 Festival and then with companies in Philadelphia, New Haven, and
15 New York; in 1979, his parents came to see him star on Broadway in
16 *Lone Star*, a one-act comedy about Texas, and in 1980, he earned an
17 Emmy Award for his portrayal of cult leader Jim Jones in the
18 miniseries *Guyana Tragedy*; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Boothe went on to appear in such films as
20 *Southern Comfort*, *The Emerald Forest*, and *Red Dawn*, but for much of
21 his career, he was known for playing charming and charismatic
22 villains, often in westerns or thrillers, including a flamboyant
23 gunslinger in *Tombstone*, a corrupt senator in *Sin City*, and a drug
24 lord in *Extreme Prejudice*; he was equally successful in television,

1 playing Raymond Chandler's classic detective on the HBO series
2 *Philip Marlowe, Private Eye*, a traitorous naval officer in the
3 miniseries *Family of Spies*, a saloon owner in *Deadwood*, and the vice
4 president of the United States on 24; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1969, Mr. Boothe married his high school
6 sweetheart, Pamela Cole, and the couple shared 48 years together;
7 he was the proud father of two children, Parisse and Preston, who
8 acted with him on television and in films, and later in life, he
9 took great delight in the time he spent with his grandson, Ryder
10 James; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to his Emmy, Mr. Boothe was recognized
12 with induction into the Texas Hall of Fame, a star on the Walk of
13 Western Stars, and a Distinguished Alumni Award from Texas State
14 University, among other honors; he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and
15 trapshooting, and, like many of the characters he played in
16 westerns, he was a skilled poker player, taking second place in the
17 Screen Actors Guild Foundation Poker Classic; and

18 WHEREAS, Standing six foot two and endowed with a deep,
19 resonant voice, Powers Boothe was, in the words of filmmaker Robert
20 Rodriguez, "a towering Texas gentleman and world class artist," and
21 in every production in which he appeared, whether he was playing the
22 hero or the villain, he made an indelible impression as well as a
23 memorable contribution to the rich legacy of Texans on film; now,
24 therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
26 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Powers Boothe and
27 extend heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones and to his many friends

H.R. No. 2522

1 and colleagues; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Powers
5 Boothe.

Burrows

H.R. No. 2522

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2522 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 28, 2017.

Chief Clerk of the House