

1                   SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, United States Air Force Captain Robert Russell  
3 Barnett was laid to rest at the Texas State Cemetery on April 7,  
4 2017, the 51st anniversary of the day that he was killed in action  
5 during the Vietnam War; and

6           WHEREAS, A member of the 8th Bomber Squadron, Captain Barnett  
7 was flying a classified mission when his aircraft was shot down over  
8 Laos in 1966; it was nearly 40 years before the United States  
9 military was able to locate the crash site and 50 before his body  
10 was recovered; thanks to the dedicated and exhaustive work of those  
11 who took part in this effort, he is now able to be buried with full  
12 military honors in the state and country he loved; and

13           WHEREAS, The son of Robert and Zelma Barnett, Russell Barnett  
14 was born on October 5, 1933, and raised in Gladewater; he graduated  
15 from Gladewater High School, where he played for the Bears football  
16 team; his skill on the gridiron earned him a football scholarship to  
17 Baylor University, and after completing his degree there, he  
18 enlisted in the United States Air Force; flying under the call sign  
19 "Bear," his nickname, he served 10 years in the air force and was  
20 proud to be fighting to protect our freedoms; when he passed away at  
21 age 32, he left behind two cherished daughters, Donna and Debra; and

22           WHEREAS, Captain Russell Barnett served with honor, courage,  
23 and patriotism, embodying the highest ideals of the United States  
24 armed forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a debt of gratitude

1 and remembrance that the passage of time can never diminish; now,  
2 therefore, be it

3         RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas  
4 hereby pay special tribute to the memory of Captain Robert Russell  
5 Barnett and extend to his loved ones sincere condolences for the  
6 loss of this valiant Texan; and, be it further

7         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
8 prepared for his family and that when the Texas Senate and House of  
9 Representatives adjourn this day, they do so in memory of Captain  
10 Russell Barnett.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 49 was adopted by the Senate on April 11, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 49 was adopted by the House on May 19, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor