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By:  Dean H.R. No. 357

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Longview High School football team reached the pinnacle of success by winning the 2018 University Interscholastic League 6A Division 2 state championship, claiming the school's first state crown in 81 years; and

WHEREAS, Competing for the title in front of more than 48,000 fans at AT&T Stadium in Arlington on December 22, Longview faced a talented team from Beaumont West Brook High School; the Lobos took the lead early, going up 13-7 as the first quarter came to a close, but they trailed 34-29 late in the game; the Longview offense kept a crucial drive alive with a 54-yard reception and followed with a 2-yard touchdown run to take a 1-point lead with just under five minutes left in the game; the Lobos' defense then preserved the win by pouncing on a West Brook fumble, and the team hoisted the trophy with a thrilling 35-34 victory; and

WHEREAS, The Lobos were led by Offensive Most Valuable Player Haynes King, who threw for 423 yards and 2 touchdowns and also ran for a score; his favorite target, Kamden Perry, set a UIL 6A championship game record with 218 receiving yards, and Defensive MVP Jephaniah Lister collected 12 tackles; and

WHEREAS, Ably guided by head coach John King and his assistants, Longview excelled throughout the year; unbeaten in the regular season, the Lobos won the District 11 title and then bested Copperas Cove, Prosper, Austin Vandegrift, Spring Westfield, and Amarillo Tascosa High Schools on their march through the playoffs; with the championship triumph, the 2018 Longview players ended the season with a perfect 16-0 record and joined the 1937 squad as the school's two title-winning teams; and

WHEREAS, Through countless hours of hard work and an unwavering commitment to excellence, the Longview Lobos proved themselves one of the top teams in Texas high school football in 2018, and they are a source of great pride to their school and community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the Longview High School football team on winning the 2018 UIL 6A Division 2 state championship and extend to the team's players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the team as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.