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By:  Leach H.R. No. 580

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Texas native Rex Burkhead of the New England Patriots enjoyed a successful 2018-2019 NFL season that culminated in his team's triumph in Super Bowl LIII; and

WHEREAS, In the Patriots 13-3 championship victory over the Los Angeles Rams, Mr. Burkhead ran for 43 yards, including a key 26-yard gain late in the fourth quarter, and also hauled in two pass receptions; the Super Bowl win closed out a memorable year in which he overcame an injury and became an important factor in New England's playoff games; he tallied his first-ever postseason touchdown in the divisional contest against the Los Angeles Chargers and scored the game-winning touchdown in overtime in the conference championship showdown with the Kansas City Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, A standout player at Plano Senior High School, Mr. Burkhead was an Associated Press first-team All-State selection during his senior season; after graduating in 2009, he spent his collegiate football career as a running back at the University of Nebraska, where he scored 35 touchdowns and ran for 3,329 yards, becoming one of the top five rushers in Cornhusker history; those impressive statistics caught the attention of professional football scouts, and he was selected in the sixth round of the 2013 NFL Draft by the Cincinnati Bengals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burkhead spent four seasons with the Bengals, appearing in all 16 regular-season games during his last two years with the team; he signed with New England in 2017 and made his first Super Bowl appearance later that season; an accomplished individual off the field as well, he has been active in various community service initiatives, including efforts to assist young people who face serious medical challenges; and

WHEREAS, Through his hard work and unwavering commitment to excellence, Rex Burkhead has distinguished himself in NFL competition, and his achievements are a source of great pride to his many fans in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate Rex Burkhead on becoming a Super Bowl champion as a member of the New England Patriots and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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