86R15010 BK-D

By:  Stephenson H.R. No. 676

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Family and friends suffered a tragic loss with the death of Texas Game Warden Justin Philip Hurst of El Campo on March 17, 2007, and more than a decade later, his honorable service continues to be a source of inspiration to those he left behind; and

WHEREAS, On his 34th birthday, Game Warden Hurst was shot and fatally wounded in the line of duty while he was attempting to apprehend a man suspected of illegal hunting; and

WHEREAS, Justin Hurst was born to Allen and Pat Hurst in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, on March 17, 1973, and raised with the companionship of his brother, Greg; after working as a waterfowl guide in his youth, he chose wildlife ecology as his area of study and went on to earn his bachelor's degree in that subject from Texas A&M University; he began his career as a biologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1995, and he completed his training at the Texas Game Warden Academy in August 2002; and

WHEREAS, Game Warden Hurst was passionate and deeply knowledgeable about wildlife, and he had a sincere interest in enforcing the laws to protect our state's natural environment and resources; throughout his career, he investigated illegal hunting, criminal trespassing, and pollution cases; he believed in the importance of educating people about the law, and he regularly visited Wharton County schools to teach children about hunting and fishing laws and environmental stewardship; he belonged to the Texas Game Warden Association, the Texas Wildlife Association, Ducks Unlimited, and the Coastal Conservation Association, and he also served on the administrative board at the First United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Hurst enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Amanda, and he took great pride in their son, Kyle; and

WHEREAS, Although the untimely passing of Justin Hurst was a grievous loss to his family, to his colleagues, and to the community and state that he so faithfully served, his legacy of integrity and devotion to duty will forever be remembered; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Game Warden Justin Philip Hurst and extend profound sympathy to all who have mourned his passing; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Justin Hurst.