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By:  Parker H.R. No. 1146

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Words cannot adequately express the sorrow felt at the loss of U.S. Air Force Captain Mark Kenneth Weber of Bartonville, who died in the line of duty on March 15, 2018, at the age of 29; and

WHEREAS, Assigned to the 38th Rescue Squadron, 23rd Wing, out of Moody Air Force Base in Georgia, Captain Weber was serving in Anbar Province, Iraq, as a combat rescue officer in support of Operation Inherent Resolve; he and six other airmen lost their lives when their helicopter crashed during the course of a nighttime rescue operation; in recognition of his distinguished military service, he was posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal; and

WHEREAS, Mark Weber was born to Ron and Margaret Weber of Bartonville on July 31, 1988, and he grew up with four sisters, Leah, Kathrine, Lori, and Kristen; he was a star football player at Guyer High School and followed in his father's footsteps by attending the U.S. Air Force Academy; and

WHEREAS, Commissioned a second lieutenant after his graduation from the academy in 2011, Captain Weber initially worked as a contracting officer for the air force, but he soon began training as a combat rescue officer, responsible for the planning and execution of search-and-rescue operations for wounded and downed pilots in combat zones; he became skilled at this difficult and dangerous work, and before deploying to Iraq, he took part in rescues in the United States during the hurricane season of 2017; and

WHEREAS, Serving with honor, courage, and dedication, Mark Weber embodied the highest ideals of the United States armed forces, and his fellow citizens owe him a debt of gratitude that time can never diminish; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Captain Mark Kenneth Weber and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family and many friends; 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 Mark Kenneth Weber.