86R31037 GM-D

By:  Shine H.R. No. 1468

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost an admired law enforcement professional when Senior Trooper Thomas Patrick Nipper of the Texas Department of Public Safety was killed in the line of duty on November 4, 2017, at the age of 63; and

WHEREAS, Tom Nipper was born in Waltham, Massachusetts, on March 17, 1954, to Tommie Lee Nipper and Rose Piazza Nipper; after graduating from Copperas Cove High School in 1973, he earned his associate degree in criminal justice from Central Texas College; he began his career in law enforcement as a police officer in Nolanville, and he went on to serve with the Coryell County Sheriff's Office and with police departments in Hereford, Belton, and Gainesville before entering the DPS academy, where he graduated in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his three and a half decades with DPS, Trooper Nipper earned the respect and admiration of his fellow officers, and he was presented with many awards and commendations, including a Field Major's award for his rescue of an abducted child; and

WHEREAS, Tom Nipper shared nearly four decades of matrimony with the former Tammy Beasley, and he was the proud father of three children, Michael, Amy, and Lori; he delighted in watching the Dallas Cowboys and in hosting weekend barbecues for family and friends; a self-described "geek," he enjoyed visiting his local hobby shop, and he was fond of quoting Spock's famous salutation from *Star Trek*, "Live long and prosper"; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man, a true friend, and a dedicated peace officer, Tom Nipper leaves behind a record of service that will continue to inspire all those who knew and loved him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Senior Trooper Thomas Patrick Nipper and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his wife, Tammy Beasley Nipper; to his children, Michael Nipper and his wife, Janie, Amy Nipper Schmoyer and her husband, Michael, and Lori Marie Nipper; to his brother, Joe Piazza; to his sister, Lynn Sawyer, and her husband, Rick; and to his other relatives 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 Senior Trooper Nipper.