

By: Longoria

H.R. No. 687

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Connor Williams of the Dallas Cowboys is raising
2 awareness of the often severe consequences of bullying among
3 school-age children, and his efforts are indeed deserving of
4 recognition; and

5 WHEREAS, Joining his NFL peers as part of the league's My
6 Cause, My Cleats campaign, Mr. Williams is helping to promote the
7 stopbullying.gov website managed by the U.S. Department of Health
8 and Human Services; the website's mission is to educate the public
9 on how to prevent bullying and cyberbullying, which can adversely
10 affect children's mental and physical health; further, bullying is
11 linked to lower academic achievement, and its victims are more
12 likely to skip classes or drop out of school; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was bullied as a child and presents his
14 own narrative in reaching out to youth who are experiencing similar
15 difficulties; struggling with a speech impediment from an early
16 age, he became the target of bullies who ridiculed him for the way
17 he spoke; self-conscious about how he was viewed in school and other
18 public places, he was also humiliated by bullies who made fun of his
19 size and weight; throughout these emotional ordeals, he drew
20 strength from his parents, whose unconditional love and support
21 helped him through his darkest times; in junior high, he started
22 working out in the garage gym set up by his father; building muscle
23 and confidence, he embarked on a path that would lead to football
24 stardom; and

1 WHEREAS, A native of Coppell, Mr. Williams garnered
2 all-state recognition as an offensive lineman on the Coppell High
3 School football team; he continued his football career at The
4 University of Texas at Austin, becoming only the fourth sophomore
5 in program history to earn consensus All-American honors; moreover,
6 he was named an All-Big 12 player for his achievements on the field
7 and an Academic All-Big 12 selection for his performance in the
8 classroom; chosen by Dallas in the second round of the 2018 NFL
9 draft, he enjoyed a promising rookie season, quickly developing
10 into a starting player on the offensive line; and

11 WHEREAS, Connor Williams has become an important voice in the
12 anti-bullying movement, and he is making a positive and lasting
13 difference in the lives of young people in the Lone Star State and
14 around the nation; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
16 Legislature hereby commend Connor Williams for raising awareness of
17 the negative consequences of bullying among children and extend to
18 him sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

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