

By: Bell of Kaufman

H.R. No. 1224

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Forney High School softball team reached the
2 pinnacle of success by winning the University Interscholastic
3 League 5A state championship on June 2, 2018, in Austin; and

4 WHEREAS, Following an impressive showing in the regular
5 season, the Jackrabbits began their exciting playoff run by
6 triumphing over Texarkana Texas High School and went on to best
7 Lewisville The Colony, Sulphur Springs, Mansfield Lake Ridge, and
8 Hallsville to earn a spot in the state tournament; and

9 WHEREAS, In the semifinals, Forney defeated Barbers Hill by a
10 score of 2-0 to set up a showdown against Richmond Foster High
11 School for the 5A crown; with the game knotted 1-1 in the seventh
12 inning, tournament MVP Savanna DesRochers hit a two-out single that
13 scored two runs, and the Jackrabbits then pushed another run across
14 to take a 4-1 lead; Foster threatened in the bottom of the seventh,
15 but the game ended with an unforgettable catch by senior left
16 fielder Caroline Tedder, who chased down a seemingly unplayable
17 foul ball, snagging it just as she slammed into the railing; the
18 incredible play made ESPN *SportsCenter's* Top 10 and gave Forney the
19 first softball state championship in school history; the win was
20 all the more special because it closed out a season that was
21 dedicated to former teammate Emily Galiano, who lost her life in a
22 tragic accident the year before; and

23 WHEREAS, The Jackrabbits' success was the result of a true
24 team effort; in addition to Ms. DesRochers and Ms. Tedder, the

1 roster included Trinity Cannon, Caleigh Cross, Hannah Holdbrook,
2 Samantha Coker, Lexi Brown, Ashleigh Cheek, Brittany Lee, Savannah
3 Hughes, Tatum Stover, Bailey Beal, Charlie Hale, Sadie Hewitt,
4 Georgia Robinson, Jessika Roberts, Vanessa Hollingsworth, and
5 Madison Galiano; these determined athletes were guided by head
6 coach Pat Eitel and assistant coaches Michelle Eitel and Richard
7 Haynes; and

8 WHEREAS, Through their hard work and unwavering commitment to
9 excellence, the Forney Jackrabbits have become a source of great
10 pride to their school and community, and all those associated with
11 the team will forever cherish the memory of this remarkable
12 accomplishment; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate the Forney High School softball
15 team on winning the 2018 UIL 5A state championship and extend to the
16 players, coaches, and staff sincere best wishes for continued
17 success; and, be it further

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