

By: Shine

H.R. No. 1468

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

1 from *Star Trek*, "Live long and prosper"; and

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

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Senior Trooper Thomas
8 Patrick Nipper and extend sincere condolences to the members of his
9 family: to his wife, Tammy Beasley Nipper; to his children, Michael
10 Nipper and his wife, Janie, Amy Nipper Schmoyer and her husband,
11 Michael, and Lori Marie Nipper; to his brother, Joe Piazza; to his
12 sister, Lynn Sawyer, and her husband, Rick; and to his other
13 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Senior
17 Trooper Nipper.