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R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, On the morning of September 11, 2001, 19 terrorists hijacked four civilian airplanes in the skies over the United States; the worst terror attack on the American people in the country's history proceeded to unfold on that horrific day; in a coordinated attack, the hijackers intentionally flew two of the planes into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center and a third into the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, Learning about the other hijackings, passengers and crew members on the fourth plane, Flight 93, launched a counterattack, spurring the hijacker pilot to crash the plane into a field in Pennsylvania; nearly 3,000 people were killed in the different locations, the single largest loss of life resulting from a foreign attack on American soil; and

WHEREAS, While September 11 will forever be remembered as a day of tragedy and loss, we also remember the selfless determination of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other rescue workers who charged into danger that morning and in the days after; these first responders continued to show up and search for survivors and remains in the days and weeks after the attacks, and many of these heroes lost their lives assisting the people who were trapped and injured; and

WHEREAS, United in grief, Americans helped in every way possible; we gave blood and said prayers, with some even volunteering to help in the rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Flight 93 sites; we performed acts of charity and comforted each other, and we stood united as a nation; and

WHEREAS, In December 2001, the U.S. Congress passed a joint resolution designating September 11 of each year as Patriot Day; on that solemn anniversary, we lower our flags and bow our heads for a moment of silence; this day reminds us that our nation is still working to effectively combat terrorism that threatens the United States of America, while remembering the brave souls who have lost their lives in the process; and

WHEREAS, Patriot Day is a tribute to the innocent and those who died trying to rescue them; it is also a pledge to carry on their legacies and remain steadfast in our commitment to our country, our neighbors, and our character; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate Patriot Day 2021 on the 20th anniversary of these attacks and honor with our memories and our actions those who were injured and those who died in the September 11 attacks.