

By: Sherman, Sr.

H.R. No. 308

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life enriched by faith, family, and a passion for
2 music drew to a close with the death of Gerald Mansfield Burnett
3 Sr. on January 3, 2021, at the age of 41; and

4 WHEREAS, Gerald Burnett was born in Dallas on August 4, 1979,
5 to Harold and Willie Eva Burnett, and he grew up in a loving
6 Christian home with four siblings, Sharyl, Harold, Carole, and
7 Daryl; his talent as a singer was evident from an early age, and
8 throughout his life, he regularly sang tenor with his family as a
9 member of the Burnett5; in middle school, he began studying piano as
10 well as voice, and after graduating from the Booker T. Washington
11 High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in 1997, he enrolled
12 at Southwestern Christian College; in 2001, he earned a bachelor's
13 degree in music from Oklahoma Christian University, where he was a
14 member of the chamber singers and the university choir; and

15 WHEREAS, This gifted musician began his career as a music
16 educator with the Lancaster Independent School District, and he
17 went on to serve for 15 years as choral director for two schools in
18 Duncanville ISD, where he wrote the school song for Kennemer Middle
19 School and was named Teacher of the Year; since the fall of 2020, he
20 had served as assistant choral director of DeSoto High School;
21 deeply involved in his church, he was the minister of music at
22 Mountain View Church of Christ for two decades; he also composed,
23 arranged, and engineered five eclectic albums through his company,
24 G-Note Productions and Studio, combining such genres as gospel,

1 classical, and jazz, and he produced albums for many other artists
2 as well; and

3 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Burnett enjoyed the love
4 and support of his wife, Frederica Smith, whom he married in 2016,
5 and he took great pride in his son, Gerald Burnett II, and in his
6 stepson, Aiden Groce; and

7 WHEREAS, Gerald Burnett lived a rich and purposeful life, and
8 though he was taken much too soon, he leaves behind a legacy that
9 will continue to inspire all those who were fortunate enough to know
10 him; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Gerald Mansfield
13 Burnett Sr. and extend sincere condolences to his relatives and his
14 many friends; and, be it further

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