

By: Spiller

H.R. No. 907

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, In recognition of his outstanding collegiate
2 playing career, Jacksboro High School head baseball coach Blake
3 Belcher is being inducted into the Howard Payne University Sports
4 Hall of Fame on May 15, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, A 1994 graduate of Holliday High School, Blake
6 Belcher attended Abilene Christian University and Ranger College
7 before transferring to Howard Payne and joining the baseball team;
8 he demonstrated dynamic leadership as a junior, helping the Yellow
9 Jackets to win the 1997 American Southwest Conference championship
10 and to make their inaugural appearance in the NAIA national
11 tournament; named the conference's Most Valuable Player, he hit
12 .401 with nine home runs on the year, sparking an offense that
13 delivered a school-record .359 team batting average; and

14 WHEREAS, Continuing to excel during his senior campaign at
15 HPU, Mr. Belcher posted a .390 batting average while propelling the
16 squad to a program-record 32 wins and a second-place league finish;
17 he was a first-team All-Conference selection for the Yellow
18 Jackets, who were nationally ranked for most of the season; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher earned an education degree from HPU and
20 worked one year as a graduate assistant for the baseball team; he
21 has spent the past two decades as a teacher and a high school
22 baseball coach, including his tenure guiding the Jacksboro Tigers;
23 in all his endeavors, he enjoys the love and support of his wife,
24 Melanie, and their three children; and

1 WHEREAS, Through his remarkable success on the baseball
2 diamond, Blake Belcher has furthered the proud tradition of
3 athletic achievement at Howard Payne University, and he is indeed
4 deserving of this prestigious honor; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
6 Legislature hereby congratulate Blake Belcher on his induction into
7 the Howard Payne University Sports Hall of Fame and extend to him
8 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
10 prepared for Coach Belcher as an expression of high regard by the
11 Texas House of Representatives.