

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 299

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Coach Belcher as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Springer

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on April 22, 2021.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate