

By: Gerdes

H.R. No. 1413

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Standout defensive player Michael Taaffe has made
2 significant contributions to the recent success and the proud
3 winning tradition of The University of Texas at Austin football
4 team; and

5 WHEREAS, A fifth-generation Longhorn, Mr. Taaffe became a
6 walk-on defensive back as a redshirt freshman in 2022, playing 13
7 games for UT and distinguishing himself as a member of the Academic
8 All-Big 12 Conference Second Team; after receiving his scholarship
9 in a team meeting prior to the Alamo Bowl, he earned All-Big 12
10 Honorable Mention recognition as a sophomore, recording 48 tackles
11 and 3 interceptions in 14 outings during the 2023 campaign; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Taaffe enjoyed a breakout junior year in 2024,
13 starting all 16 contests and helping the Longhorns reach the
14 Southeastern Conference championship game and the 12-team College
15 Football Playoff; he recorded 10 tackles and 2 pass breakups in a
16 win over Arizona State University in the CFP quarterfinals, and in
17 the semifinal against eventual national champion Ohio State, he
18 notched five tackles in another stellar showing; during the year,
19 he collected SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Week and Burlsworth
20 Trophy National Player of the Week honors, and he was a semifinalist
21 for the Burlsworth Trophy, given to a player who has excelled on the
22 field since starting his career as a walk-on; and

23 WHEREAS, The son of Peter and Diane Taaffe, Mr. Taaffe first
24 gained acclaim at Westlake High School; a two-way player, he led the

1 Chaparrals to a pair of 6A state championships and was the Defensive
2 Most Valuable Player selection in each title game; as a senior, he
3 was a Texas Sports Writers Association Second-Team All-State pick,
4 and he totaled 60 tackles, 5 interceptions, and nearly 300
5 receiving yards with 3 touchdown catches on the year; and

6 WHEREAS, Through his skill, determination, and unwavering
7 commitment to excellence, Michael Taaffe has become a source of
8 great pride to Longhorn football fans and his many supporters in the
9 Austin community, and he is indeed deserving of recognition at this
10 time; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
12 Legislature hereby congratulate Michael Taaffe for his
13 achievements as a member of The University of Texas at Austin
14 football team and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
15 success in the coming season; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for Mr. Taaffe as an expression of high regard by the Texas
18 House of Representatives.