TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FALLEN TEXANS
IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM
(The House of Representatives and Senate in Joint Session)

In accordance with the provisions of HCR 184, providing for a joint session of the senate and house of representatives for the purpose of a tribute to fallen soldiers of the Global War on Terrorism, Governor Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, and the honorable senators were announced at the door of the house and were admitted.

The Honorable David Dewhurst, president of the senate, called the senate to order. A quorum of the senate was announced present.

The Honorable Joe Straus, speaker of the house, called the house to order. A quorum of the house of representatives was present.

Speaker Straus stated that the two houses were in joint session pursuant to HCR 184 in honor of all Texans killed during the Global War on Terrorism and welcomed Governor Perry, Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst, members of the senate, and other state officials, and addressed the assemblage.

Speaker Straus recognized Representative Corte who addressed the families of the honored fallen soldiers.

The joint session and assemblage rose for the posting of the colors.

Jessica Leibowitz, daughter of Representative Leibowitz, sang the national anthem.

Speaker Straus recognized Representative Berman who led the pledges of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Speaker Straus presented Dr. Jerry Hardwick of San Antonio who offered the invocation.

The service medley was played.

Speaker Straus requested the reading clerk to read HCR 184, convening a joint memorial session to honor all Texans killed during the Global War on Terrorism.

Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst addressed the joint session and assemblage.

Governor Perry addressed the joint session and assemblage, as follows:

For the past 138 days, this historic room has witnessed leaders engaging in passionate debate over points of difference, but, today, we share a common purpose. In a group representing a great diversity of political viewpoints there is no debate today, as we together express our heartfelt gratitude for the men and women who protect us, and remember those who gave their lives in the process.

When we ponder the concept of laying down one's life for another, we are reminded that such sacrifice is a supreme act of love, love for those protected, and love for the ideals of a nation steeped in freedom. We are amazed by accounts of such selflessness, but also saddened at lives cut short, dreams extinguished, and loved ones left behind.
As we honor these brave Texans who made the ultimate sacrifice, we also offer our heartfelt condolences to those who love them. It can be no easy thing to balance admiration for your fallen warrior with the realities of a life that continues to unfold, one challenging day after another. Know that the people of Texas genuinely appreciate the service and sacrifice of our military personnel, and lift up their survivors in their thoughts and prayers.

Not only do the leaders here today pray for you, but they and their colleagues have been working to express support in tangible ways. For example, when this ceremony concludes today, I will take pen in hand and sign SB 90, making it easier for dependents to pursue their education, while enduring the frequent relocations of military life. I want to thank Senator Van de Putte and Representative Geren for carrying these bills.

There is also time left in this session to extend the benefits of the Hazlewood Act to surviving spouses of killed or completely disabled military members. Providing for themselves and their families is a significant burden for these spouses, a burden that can be reduced by the better pay that typically comes with a college degree. I also hope we can say "thank you" to all of our veterans by extending in-state tuition rates to all GI Bill-eligible veterans. No matter the outcome of the debates in this building, the fact remains that Texas owes much to those who have died as well as their families.

In the days to come, I encourage you to live your life fully because you know that each day is precious, and be assured that the cause for which your loved ones fought and died is still a just and noble cause. The wreckage of that fateful September day was long ago removed, and order restored to sites of unimaginable carnage, but the sentiment that drove our attackers still festers.

It is a sterling tribute to the men and women of our armed forces, our intelligence services, and members of the law enforcement community, that no similar attack has occurred on our nation's soil in the intervening days. Because our defenders have been willing to answer the call, and muddy their boots with the soil of faraway lands, we enjoy safety and security here at home. That said, the Global War on Terror is far from over, and the need for vigilance and engagement will continue as long as the hateful ideologies that drive our enemies continue to find a foothold in their hearts and minds. Because these sentiments emanate from the basest parts of human nature, their demise will be a long time coming.

So we will continue to call upon the best and brightest among us to stand between us and those who would do us harm and join the long line that takes up arms to defend others. I am reminded of the words written by Bayard Taylor in his poem, "The Song of the Camp," that conveys the unique character of those defenders and honors them in repose. "Sleep, soldiers! still in honored rest, Your truth and valor wearing: The bravest are the tenderest, The loving are the daring."

Today, we remember these Texans, the bravest of our lot, and celebrate their daring. Because of them, we live and breathe free. In the days to come, let us all cling tightly to those ideals that motivated their selfless service. Let us never take
for granted the freedom for which they traded their lives. Let us strive to live in a manner befitting their sacrifice. May God bless you all and, through you, may he continue to bless the great State of Texas.

Governor Perry presented flags flown over the Capitol to family members as Representatives Corte, Chavez, and Aycock and Senators Van de Putte, Lucio, Jr., and Estes read the names of the following fallen soldiers:

Specialist Orlando Antonio Perez, Army; Lance Corporal Johnny Ray Strong, Marine Corps; Specialist Jeffrey Franklin Nichols, Army; Captain Michael Allen Norman, Army; Major Sid William Brookshire, Army; Corporal Steven Ivan Candelo, Army; Specialist Jonathan David Arthur Emard, Army; Private First Class Christopher Michael McCloud, Army; First Sergeant Jeffrey Ray McKinney, Army; Corporal Marquis Jermaine McCants, Army; Specialist Cory Joseph Bertrand, Army; Corporal William David O’Brien, Army; Private First Class Heath Kayne Pickard, Army; Corporal Juan Manuel Lopez, Jr., Army; Captain Rowdy J. Inman, Army; Corporal Brandon William Smitherman, Army; Colonel Sidney Joseph Marceaux, Jr., Army; Specialist Thomas Franklin Duncan III, Army; Private First Class Ron Joseph Joshua, Jr., Army; Specialist Rodney Jerrone Johnson, Army; Corporal Michael James Jaurigue, Army; Sergeant Omar Leonardo Mora, Army; Staff Sergeant Jason Logan Brown, Army; Corporal Zachary Ryan Endsley, Army; Airman Apprentice Adrian Montoya Campos, Navy; Specialist Quincy Jermel Green, Army; Major Rodolpho Ivan Rodriguez, Air Force; Lance Corporal Matthew Sauer Medlicott, Marine Corps; Corporal Joshua Alexander Molina, Army; First Lieutenant Jeremy E. Ray, Army; Staff Sergeant Archie Andrew Taylor, Marine Corps; Specialist Alex Daniel Gonzalez, Army; Corporal Jose A. Rubio Hernandez, Army; Staff Sergeant Jimy Mac Malone, Army; Private John Alexander Mattox, Army; Private Oscar Sauceda, Jr., Army; Major Christopher M. Cooper, Army; Specialist Matthew Troy Morris, Army; First Lieutenant Matthew R. Vandergrift, Marine Corps; Corporal Rhett Allen Butler, Army; Staff Sergeant Juan Francisco Campos, Army; Sergeant Matthew Elias Mendoza, Marine Corps; Specialist Kamisha Jane Block, Army; First Lieutenant Roberto Vallejo II, Army; Corporal Christopher John Lee West, Army; Corporal Ryan Daniel Collins, Army; Staff Sergeant Edgar Alberto Heredia, Marine Corps; Corporal Scott Alexander McIntosh, Army; Sergeant Conrad Alvarez, Army; Staff Sergeant Wesley G. Hunter, Army; Sergeant Randell Olguin, Army; Sergeant Anselmo Martinez III, Army; Major Thomas Gordon Bostick, Jr., Army; Sergeant Mark Allen Stone, Army; Specialist James Lee Adair, Army; Sergeant Samuel Edbert Kelsey, Army; Private First Class Joseph Graham Harris, Army; Corporal Mathew Philip LaForest, Army; Sergeant Jaime Gonzalez, Jr., Army; Specialist Tracy Clint Willis, Army; Sergeant First Class Lawrence David Ezell, Army; Sergeant Garrett Ian McLeod, Army; Petty Officer Third Class Mark Russell Cannon, Navy; Sergeant Chris
Davis, Army; Sergeant Charles Bernard Kitowski III, Army; Private First Class Andrew Travis Engstrom, Army; Specialist Geoffrey Golden Johnson, Army; Staff Sergeant Anthony Luke Mason, Army; Corporal James Heath McRae, Marine Corps; Sergeant John Jared Savage, Army; Sergeant William Wayne Crow, Army; Sergeant Reuben Marcus Fernandez III, Army; Staff Sergeant Gary Wayne Jeffries, Army; Sergeant Christopher David Loza, Army; Lance Corporal Emmanuel Villarreal, Marine Corps; Lance Corporal Bobby Lee Twitty, Marine Corps; Sergeant Fernando Santos, Army; Specialist Eric Domingo Salinas, Army; Sergeant Danny Richard Soto, Army; First Lieutenant Kile Grant West, Army; Sergeant Bacilio Emilio Cuellar, Army; Staff Sergeant Kristopher Allan Higdon, Army; Second Lieutenant Peter H. Burks, Army; Corporal Dustin Ryan Brisky, Army; Staff Sergeant Eric Thomas Duckworth, Army; Second Lieutenant Zachary Ryan Cook, Army; Sergeant Joseph Bradley Milledge, Army; Sergeant Major Julio Cesar Ordonez, Army; Sergeant Chadrick Omar Domino, Army; Staff Sergeant John Christian Stock, Marine Corps; Staff Sergeant Clay Allen Craig, Army; Sergeant First Class Raymond John Munden, Army; Specialist Donald Allen Burkett, Army; Staff Sergeant Timothy Bruce Cole, Jr., Army; Corporal Thomas Layton Hilbert, Army; Lance Corporal Jeremy W. Burris, Marine Corps; Private First Class Rodney A. McCandless, Army; Sergeant Shaun Paul Tousha, Army; Sergeant First Class Justin Shane Monschke, Army; Staff Sergeant Brandon Wade Farley, Army; Specialist Jermaine Donnell Franklin, Army; Specialist Braden Joseph Long, Army; Sergeant First Class Miguel Antonio Wilson, Army; Specialist Dustin Cody Jackson, Army; Lance Corporal Javier Perales, Jr., Marine Corps; Corporal Michael Warner Davis, Army; Corporal Jason K. LaFleur, Army; Specialist Aaron James Walker, Army; Corporal William Troy Warford III, Army; Sergeant Wesley Roy Durbin, Army; Sergeant Jonathon Allan Markham, Army; Private First Class Sean Patrick McCune, Army; Specialist Brandon A. Myer, Army; Corporal Peter John Courcy, Army; Sergeant Gregory Daniel Unruh, Army; Specialist William Lawrence Edwards, Army; Specialist Benjamin Joseph Garrison, Army; Chief Warrant Officer Second Class Corry Ardel Edwards, Army; Corporal Joshua Glen Romero, Army; Private First Class Alan Jerome Austin, Army; Sergeant Dustin Scott Wakeman, Army; Corporal Javier Gonzalo Paredes, Army; First Lieutenant Timothy Wayne Cunningham, Army; Corporal David Phillip McCormick, Army; Sergeant Joshua Allen Ward, Army; Staff Sergeant Jeffery Lee Hartley, Army.

The joint session and assemblage observed a moment of silence.

Michael and Melanie McCracken of San Antonio sang "Amazing Grace."

A cannon salute was offered by the Texas Army National Guard Salute Battery.
"Taps" was played by Cadet Sergeants First Class Chad Kloesel and Tyler Lewis of the Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band.

Dr. Jerry Hardwick offered the benediction.

Speaker Straus thanked the attendees of today's service.

SENATE RECESS

At 11:55 a.m., Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst stated that the purpose for which the joint session was called had been completed and that the senate would, in accordance with a previous motion, stand recessed until 1 p.m. today.

HOUSE AT EASE

At 11:55 a.m., the speaker stated that the purpose of the joint session having been concluded, the house would stand at ease pending the departure of guests.

(Menendez in the chair)

The chair called the house to order at 12:18 p.m.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER

Notice was given at this time that the speaker had signed bills and resolutions in the presence of the house (see the addendum to the daily journal, Signed by the Speaker, House List No. 46).

(Speaker in the chair)

RECESS

At 12:22 p.m., the speaker announced that the house would stand recessed until 2 p.m. today.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The house met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the speaker.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the senate was received at this time (see the addendum to the daily journal, Messages from the Senate, Message No. 1).

SB 52 - REQUEST OF SENATE GRANTED
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED

On motion of Representative Zerwas, the house granted the request of the senate for the appointment of a Conference Committee on SB 52.

The chair announced the appointment of the following conference committee, on the part of the house, on SB 52: Coleman, chair; Harless, Zerwas, S. King, and Branch.

SB 78 - REQUEST OF SENATE GRANTED
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED

On motion of Representative Hartnett, the house granted the request of the senate for the appointment of a Conference Committee on SB 78.