

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and expressing condolences upon the death of
2 Staff Sergeant Eric Holman, an American hero who paid the
3 supreme sacrifice on August 15, 2012, while serving his
4 country in Afghanistan.

5 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Eric Holman enlisted in the United
6 States Army in the months following the events of September 11,
7 2001; and

8 WHEREAS, Sergeant Holman served in the 82nd Airborne Division
9 and was a member of the Golden Knights United States Army
10 Parachute Team; and

11 WHEREAS, After finishing his assignment with the Golden
12 Knights, Sergeant Holman decided to join Fort Bragg's 767th
13 Explosive Ordnance Disposition Battalion on the front lines in
14 Afghanistan; and

15 WHEREAS, Sergeant Holman possessed an exacting and determined
16 personality and demonstrated true professionalism to his
17 comrades in their dangerous yet vital assignment of bomb
18 disposal; and

1 WHEREAS, Major General Todd Semonite described Sergeant
2 Holman as "one of the best EOD technicians out there"; and

3 WHEREAS, On August 15, 2012, Sergeant Holman was tasked with
4 disarming three roadside bombs; and

5 WHEREAS, Sergeant Holman was killed when the final bomb he
6 was defusing was triggered remotely and exploded; and

7 WHEREAS, Sergeant Holman is a true American hero who,
8 according to his friend, the Reverend Dave Lewis, "never ran
9 away from anything" and "was always quick to take control or
10 assume responsibility"; and

11 WHEREAS, Speaking of Sergeant Holman, longtime friend Dave
12 Coughlin stated, "there were so many that he touched through the
13 chapters of his life . . . Eric touched all of us"; and

14 WHEREAS, For his bravery and heroism, Sergeant Holman was
15 posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star and the
16 Meritorious Service Medal; and

17 WHEREAS, A graduate of The Pennsylvania State University,
18 Sergeant Holman had a passion for skydiving that was eclipsed
19 only by his drive to serve his country and his love for his
20 family; and

21 WHEREAS, Sergeant Holman is survived by his wife, Terri; his
22 son, Misha; his mother, Jan; and his father, David; and

23 WHEREAS, It is fitting to commend the patriotic and heroic
24 contributions that Sergeant Holman made, to be saddened by this
25 brave soldier's death and to honor the supreme sacrifice he paid
26 on behalf of this nation and this Commonwealth; therefore be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
28 and express condolences upon the death of Staff Sergeant Eric
29 Holman, an American hero who paid the supreme sacrifice on
30 August 15, 2012, while serving his country in Afghanistan.