

By: Lopez of Cameron

H.R. No. 12

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of San Benito lost an admired educator
2 with the passing of Robert Lake Tumberlinson on October 16, 2023, at
3 the age of 85; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Leon and Grace Tumberlinson, Bob
5 Tumberlinson was born in New Haven, Connecticut, on March 27, 1938,
6 and grew up on a farm in San Benito; active in FFA, he won the
7 highest state award, the Lone Star Farmer Degree; upon graduation
8 from Texas A&I University, he was commissioned as a second
9 lieutenant in the U.S. Army; he completed active duty in New Orleans
10 and then served in the reserve for nine years, attaining the rank of
11 captain and commanding the Harlingen reserve unit; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Tumberlinson began his civilian career with the
13 United States Department of Agriculture in Alvin; in 1962, he was
14 hired to teach science at San Benito Junior High School; he went on
15 to become assistant principal and then served for more than 16 years
16 as principal of San Benito High; together with students and a fellow
17 educator, he designed and planted the line of palm trees in front of
18 the high school; he was business manager for the school district
19 from 1995 until his retirement in 2002; deeply committed to SBCISD,
20 he was a member of the school board for nine years and served as
21 president; his work with students was recognized with Honorary
22 Chapter Farmer and Honorary State FFA Degrees; and

23 WHEREAS, For many years, Mr. Tumberlinson was a member of the
24 Dolly Vinsant Memorial Hospital Board and Scholarship Board, and he

1 served the Kiwanis Club as president and as lieutenant governor
2 Division 11 of the Texas Oklahoma District of Kiwanis
3 International; he was active with First Presbyterian Church and
4 benefited the congregation as a ruling elder and a building and
5 grounds committee member; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Tumberlinson was the devoted husband of Sandra
7 Tumberlinson; he took great pride in his two children, Janice and
8 Robert, from his first marriage to Jahn Locke; an avid outdoorsman,
9 he excelled at fishing and hunting, and he kept an extensive
10 vegetable garden, as well as citrus trees that yielded plenty of
11 fruit to share with friends; on travels out west, he enjoyed looking
12 for arrow points, studying mountain geology, and digging for
13 fossils, which he mounted in the walls of his house; and

14 WHEREAS, Kind, fair, and empathetic, Bob Tumberlinson
15 dedicated himself to setting young Texans on the path toward a
16 happy, productive future, and he will forever be remembered with
17 great affection by all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
19 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
20 Bob Tumberlinson and extend sincere condolences to the members of
21 his family: to his wife, Sandra Tumberlinson; to his children,
22 Janice Tumberlinson and Robert Tumberlinson Jr. and his wife, Mary;
23 to his sisters-in-law, Arlene Tumberlinson and Dolores Ramirez; and
24 to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
27 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Robert Lake

H.R. No. 12

1 Tumberlinson.