

By: Smithee

H.R. No. 1492

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Radio station KPAN in Hereford is celebrating its
2 75th anniversary in 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1948, KPAN was established by John Blake and
4 former state senator Marshall Formby; Mr. Formby's nephew, Clint
5 Formby, helped with the construction of the station, and when it
6 debuted on August 4, he was the first announcer to speak over its AM
7 frequency; two years later, Marshall Formby bought out his partner;
8 his nephew came on board as a partner in 1956 and eventually
9 purchased the station; and

10 WHEREAS, Clint Formby became a Texas radio legend and
11 Panhandle icon; a leader in the industry at the state and national
12 level, he also hosted what is considered the longest-running radio
13 broadcast by an individual; for over 55 years, he discussed a
14 "predictably unpredictable" variety of topics on the *Day By Day*
15 *Philosopher* program, and he offered listeners an array of
16 admonitions, including advice to tip their servers generously and
17 kiss their loved ones good night; and

18 WHEREAS, Since its inception, KPAN has played country music
19 and reported the local news; in the 1960s, it added an FM signal and
20 launched a Spanish-language music and news segment; it has been a
21 boon to sports fans, covering Hereford High School athletics with
22 live play-by-play and relaying broadcasts of Texas Tech University
23 football and basketball and Dallas Cowboys games; over the years,
24 the station has received numerous awards from the Texas Association

1 of Broadcasters, and it was twice named Outstanding Radio Station;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Clint Formby's son Chip joined the station as news
4 director and engineer in 1978 and eventually became general manager
5 and owner; Chip Formby's sons, Jonathan and Lane, worked at the
6 station during their high school and college years; following Chip
7 Formby's untimely death, Lane Formby moved back home to carry on the
8 family legacy, and he has served as general manager since February
9 2021, working with his mother, Lisa Formby, who is now the majority
10 partner along with her two sons; and

11 WHEREAS, While consolidation and automation have left few
12 stations still serving their communities with live, local
13 broadcasting, KPAN continues to embody the spirit of founder
14 Marshall Formby's humorous slogan, "The only radio station in the
15 world that gives a hoot about Hereford, Texas," and area residents
16 are fortunate to have access to this venerable source of
17 entertainment, information, and enlightenment; now, therefore, be
18 it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
20 Legislature hereby congratulate KPAN on its 75th anniversary and
21 extend to all those associated with the station sincere best wishes
22 for continued success; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for the station as an expression of high regard by the
25 Texas House of Representatives.