

By: VanDeaver

H.R. No. 279

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Former state representative Barry Bradford Telford
2 of De Kalb passed away on June 1, 2024, at the age of 77, bringing a
3 great loss to his family, friends, and community; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of John Quincy Telford and Bertha Van Hooser
5 Telford, Barry Telford was born in New Boston on October 24, 1946,
6 and his family included two brothers, John Wayne Telford, who died
7 in infancy, and Van Quincy Telford; he attended Texarkana Junior
8 College and went on to graduate from North Texas State University in
9 1970 with a bachelor's degree in education; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Telford was elected to the Texas House of
11 Representatives in 1986, and during his 18 years in office, he
12 worked tirelessly in behalf of his constituents in House
13 District 1; he served as chair of the House Calendars and Pensions
14 and Investments Committees, as well as the Select Committee on
15 Rural Development and the House Joint Committee on State Investment
16 Policy, and he was a member of numerous other legislative
17 committees over the years; in recognition of his work on the House
18 Corrections Committee, the Barry B. Telford Unit in Bowie County
19 was named in his honor; and

20 WHEREAS, A dedicated champion for rural education and
21 economic development, Representative Telford played an
22 instrumental role in passing legislation to improve the teacher
23 retirement system, support higher education institutions in
24 Northeast Texas, and benefit public school students and teachers;

1 he further distinguished himself as a trusted mentor to numerous
2 other House members; in addition, he served on the Criminal Justice
3 Policy Council, the State Pension Review Board, the Sunset Advisory
4 Commission, the Texas State Artist Committee, and the National
5 Conference of State Legislatures Task Force on Social Security
6 Reform; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Telford enjoyed a rewarding career
8 as the owner and operator of Telford Gas and Furniture; active in
9 his community, he was a member of the De Kalb Masonic Lodge No. 9,
10 the Maud Gun Club, and De Kalb First United Methodist Church; among
11 his many achievements, he received the Heart of the Community Noble
12 Award from the De Kalb TX Chamber of Commerce in 2012; and

13 WHEREAS, Blessed with a devoted family, Representative
14 Telford shared a rewarding marriage with his wife, Marsha, that
15 spanned nearly 58 years; he took great pride in their children,
16 Christina and John, and he had the pleasure of welcoming into his
17 family four grandchildren, Quincy, Zoe, Gracie, and Jackson; in his
18 leisure hours, he enjoyed skeet shooting, hunting, and reading; and

19 WHEREAS, Barry Telford set an inspiring example through his
20 enduring commitment to public service, and he leaves behind a
21 record of good works that will long be remembered; now, therefore,
22 be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas
24 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of former state
25 representative Barry Bradford Telford and extend sincere
26 condolences to the members of his family: to his wife, Marsha
27 Cunningham Telford; to his daughter, Anna Christina Telford, and

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1 her husband, Jason Cording; to his son, John Farris Telford, and his
2 wife, Molly Darden Telford; to his grandchildren, Quincy Cole
3 Telford, Zoe Kate Telford, and Gracie Reese Telford; and to his
4 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Barry
8 Telford.