

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 102

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Texas Ernest Schramm, Jr., on July
2 15, 2003, at the age of 83, has brought a great loss to his family
3 and friends, as well as to fans of professional football across the
4 state and nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Born June 2, 1920, in Los Angeles, he attended
6 Pasadena Junior College and The University of Texas at Austin, but
7 temporarily set aside his higher education to serve in the U.S. Air
8 Force before returning to the Forty Acres to attain a degree in
9 journalism; and

10 WHEREAS, He began his enduring association with the NFL in
11 1947 working in public relations for the Los Angeles Rams and before
12 his departure 10 years later had risen to the position of general
13 manager; and

14 WHEREAS, Hired by CBS sports in 1957, this visionary
15 gentleman made broadcast history by proposing and producing the
16 first televised Winter Olympics games in Squaw Valley, California;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Returning to the NFL as president and general
19 manager of the fledgling Dallas Cowboys, he worked closely with
20 Coach Tom Landry and owner Clint Murchison to create one of the most
21 successful franchises in the history of professional sports; after
22 struggling through its first few seasons, "America's Team" went on
23 to post an NFL record 20 consecutive winning campaigns, including
24 13 division titles, 18 playoff appearances, and five Super Bowls,

1 two of which were Cowboy victories; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Schramm pioneered countless innovations in the
3 game he so dearly loved, including instant replay, the wild-card
4 playoff concept, and wireless microphones for game officials, and
5 he was also instrumental in the 1966 NFL/AFL merger that created the
6 Super Bowl; and

7 WHEREAS, In recognition of his vast contributions to the NFL,
8 Mr. Schramm was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in July
9 1991, and his name will take its rightful place in the Dallas
10 Cowboys' Ring of Honor during the 2003 season; and

11 WHEREAS, A true giant in his profession, Mr. Schramm's impact
12 on the sport of professional football will be felt for decades to
13 come, and it is indeed appropriate that the members of this body
14 honor the accomplishments of this remarkable man; now, therefore,
15 be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
17 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the
18 life of Texas Ernest Schramm, Jr., and extend sincere sympathy to
19 his two daughters, Christi Wilkinson and Kandy Court, to his other
20 relatives and friends, and to the countless admirers of this sports
21 legend; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
24 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tex
25 Schramm.