

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 125

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Alpine community lost a distinguished native son
2 when Franklin W. Daugherty passed away on August 23, 2003, at the
3 age of 76; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on June 20, 1927, in Alpine, Dr. Daugherty grew
5 up on his family's homestead in Brewster County, where he developed
6 a lifelong love for ranching and geology; in 1945, he graduated
7 from Alpine High School, and on July 18 of that year he married the
8 former Dorothy Mae Cotten, with whom he shared a strong bond of love
9 until her passing in 1998; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Daugherty served in the U.S. Army from February
11 1946 to July 1947; after his tour of duty, he enrolled in the
12 geology program at Sul Ross State University (SRSU), completing his
13 bachelor of science degree in 1950; he and his wife then purchased
14 the Grandview Courts and the Alto Lodge in Alpine from his parents,
15 operating the businesses until their sale in 1954; and

16 WHEREAS, During the drought of 1953, Dr. Daugherty drew on
17 his expertise as a geologist to locate a well and increase the water
18 supply available to Alpine residents by 55 percent; in 1958, he
19 resumed his formal geological studies, earning a master of arts
20 degree and a doctorate from The University of Texas at Austin; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Daugherty was an acknowledged expert on
22 groundwater geology, the mineral deposits of the Trans-Pecos
23 region, and the fluorspar and beryllium deposits of northern
24 Coahuila, Mexico; in the early 1950s, he served as superintendent

1 of the Lone Star mercury mines and as a contractor with Dow Chemical
2 Company, participating in the evaluation of newly discovered
3 fluorspar deposits in Coahuila, Mexico, which would eventually
4 develop into the Agua Chile and Malabrigo mines; and

5 WHEREAS, This remarkable man later worked for Dow Chemical
6 Company's Mexican subsidiary, evaluating tellurium and gold
7 deposits in the Mexican state of Sonora; in 1963, he became a
8 professor in the Department of Geology at West Texas State
9 University (WTSU), applying his natural talent for explaining
10 complex processes in understandable ways; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to revising the university's geology
12 curriculum and introducing more than a dozen new geology courses,
13 Dr. Daugherty served as director of Earth Science Research at the
14 Kilgore Research Center at WTSU, funding his research projects with
15 grants from various organizations, including the National Science
16 Foundation; he also earned the Faculty Excellence Award, which he
17 used to establish the Geology Merit Scholarship at WTSU; and

18 WHEREAS, Notably, Dr. Daugherty was one of three scientists
19 to discover a new complex mercury mineral from the Perry Pit in the
20 Terlingua Mercury district, and he was also the consulting
21 geologist responsible for the discovery and exploration of the
22 Whitroy Mine; moreover, he founded D and F Minerals with a former
23 student, and its work in La Mina Paisano attracted geologists and
24 mining engineers from the world over who were interested in the
25 geology of the area and the mining techniques used in that rugged
26 and remote terrain; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Daugherty was a fellow of the Geological Society

1 of America and a fellow of the Society of the Sigma Xi; his
2 extensive public service included an appointment to the Texas
3 Mining Council in 1981 by Governor William P. Clements, a 19-year
4 membership on the Brewster County Historical Commission, which he
5 served as chairman for 15 years, and an advisory position with the
6 Big Bend Natural History Association; a member of the advisory
7 council and the executive committee of the Center for Big Bend
8 Studies at SRSU, Dr. Daugherty also authored numerous historical
9 papers published in the *Journal of Big Bend Studies*; and

10 WHEREAS, Among his many other contributions to learning were
11 his efforts to establish the McAnulty Geology Excellence
12 Scholarship, the Flora L. Daugherty Scholarship, and the Alpine
13 High School Ex-Students' Scholarship at Sul Ross State University;
14 in 2000, he created the Franklin W. and Dorothy Cotten Daugherty
15 Memorial Endowment and Memorial Excellence Funds at the Center for
16 Big Bend Studies; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Daugherty was a life member of the SRSU
18 Ex-Students Association and served as a member of several of the
19 university's committees; in 1996, he was duly honored by his alma
20 mater with its Distinguished Alumnus award; and

21 WHEREAS, The life of this extraordinary Texan featured
22 numerous outstanding accomplishments in geological science,
23 education, and philanthropy; through an uncommon dedication and
24 tireless work ethic, Dr. Daugherty positively influenced the lives
25 of countless individuals, and his legacy will stand as a model for
26 future generations of young people who share the same thirst for
27 knowledge and desire to achieve excellence; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
2 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
3 Frank Daugherty and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his
4 family: to his three children, Sheila B. Daugherty, Stephen F.
5 Daugherty, and Claire Newman; to his five grandchildren; to his
6 sister, Flora Daugherty; and to his other relatives and many
7 friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Franklin W.
11 Daugherty.