RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The city of Odessa and the State of Texas lost a 2 dedicated and respected public servant with the death of Judge Paul 3 McCollum on March 30, 2004, at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, Born in Comanche on March 13, 1925, Paul McCollum moved with his family to Odessa in 1940 at the beginning of his junior year in high school; after graduating from Odessa High School in 1942, he attended college for one semester before being sworn in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet; he became the youngest bombardier cadet ever to be graduated and commissioned when he was awarded his wings and a 2nd Lieutenant commission at the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, A true hero of World War II, Judge McCollum and his crew were shot down over Romania and interned by Turkey before escaping and making their way to Egypt; for his outstanding service to his country, he was awarded two air medals, the European Theater of Operations medal with three battle stars, the Mediterranean-North African Theater of Operations medal with one battle star, and the North American Theater of Operations medal; and

WHEREAS, After the war ended, Judge McCollum attended Baylor University, where he graduated with a J.D. degree in 1950; after practicing law for three years in Odessa, he served Ector County as county judge for two years and district judge for five years; in 1961, he resigned from the district court bench to practice law with

- 1 Shafer, Davis, McCollum, Ashley, O'Leary & Stoker for the next 32
- 2 years; in 1994, he was appointed justice for the Eighth Court of
- 3 Appeals and from 1995 until the time of his death, he served as
- 4 former and senior justice of that court; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Judge McCollum was admitted to practice before all
- 6 courts of Texas, the U.S. district courts, the U.S. courts of appeal
- 7 for the fifth and eleventh circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court;
- 8 throughout his professional career, he served on and chaired
- 9 committees of the State Bar of Texas, including the prestigious
- 10 State Bar Conference of Lawyers and Claims Adjusters; he also
- 11 served four terms as director of and as vice president of the Texas
- 12 Young Lawyers Association and was one of 300 conferees invited to
- 13 participate in the World Law Institute in 1997, hosted by President
- 14 Jimmy Carter and President Mikhail Gorbachev; and
- WHEREAS, In addition to his exceptional career in private
- 16 practice and public service, Judge McCollum also found the time to
- 17 take part in innumerable community organizations, serving as
- 18 president of the Odessa Town Hall Association, director of the
- 19 Odessa Boys Club, president of the Odessa Naturalist Society,
- 20 director of the Odessa Crystal Ball Foundation, and a founding
- 21 member of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin; other
- 22 affiliations included the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, the Odessa
- 23 Rotary Club, the Odessa Masonic Lodge No. 955, and the Odessa Park
- 24 Advisory Board; and
- WHEREAS, A devoted family man, a lover of the law, and a
- 26 delightful raconteur, Judge McCollum lived a life of great service
- 27 to his country, to his community, and to the State of Texas;

- 1 described by friends and colleagues as an ideal American citizen
- 2 with great personal dignity, he leaves behind a legacy of public
- 3 service and professional accomplishments that will long resonate in
- 4 the minds and hearts of all those who were privileged to know him;
- 5 now, therefore, be it
- 6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
- 7 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
- 8 Judge Paul McCollum and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
- 9 his family: to his wife of 52 years, Alice Holland McCollum; to his
- 10 daughter, Kathleen M. McCulloch, and her husband, Michael; to his
- 11 son, Rector Choc McCollum, and his wife, Jill; to his
- 12 grandchildren, Travis Paul McCollum and Hannah Kathleen McCollum;
- and to his many friends and colleagues; and, be it further
- 14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 15 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 16 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Judge Paul
- 17 McCollum.

Gallego

Craddick Geren Mercer Allen Giddings Merritt Alonzo Goodman Miller Bailey Goolsby Moreno of Harris Griggs Baxter Moreno of El Paso Berman Grusendorf Morrison Guillen Bohac Mowery Naishtat Bonnen Gutierrez Haggerty Branch Nixon Brown of Kaufman Brown of Brazos Hamilton Noriega Hamric Oliveira Hardcastle Olivo Burnam Harper-Brown Callegari Paxton Campbell Hartnett Pena Heflin Canales Phillips Hegar Pickett Capelo Hilderbran Pitts Casteel Castro Hill Puente Quintanilla Hochberg Chavez Chisum Hodge Raymond Christian Homer Reyna Riddle Coleman Норе Cook of Navarro Hopson Ritter Cook of Colorado Howard Rodriguez Corte Hughes Rose Crabb Hunter Seaman Crownover Smith of Tarrant Hupp Davis of Harris Smith of Harris Isett Jones of Lubbock Jones of Bexar Jones of Dallas Davis of Dallas Smithee Dawson Solis Delisi Solomons Keel Stick Denny Deshotel Keffer of Dallas Swinford Keffer of Eastland Driver Talton Dukes King Taylor Kolkhorst Dunnam Telford Dutton Krusee Thompson Edwards Kuempel Truitt Laney Eiland Turner Eissler Laubenberg Uresti Elkins Lewis Van Arsdale Ellis Luna Villarreal Escobar Mabry West Wilson Farabee Madden Farrar Marchant Wise Martinez Fischer Wohlgemuth Flores McCall Wolens Flynn McClendon Gallego Wong Woolley Garza McReynolds Gattis Menendez Zedler

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 130 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 11, 2004.

Chief Clerk of the House