

By: McReynolds

H.R. No. 209

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, B. L. DeBerry, a longtime employee of the Texas
2 Department of Transportation, is celebrating his 90th birthday on
3 May 7, 2004, and it is fitting to honor this noteworthy gentleman
4 for his many contributions to the State of Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Bogata, Texas, in 1914, Mr. DeBerry attended
6 public schools before earning a bachelor's degree in civil
7 engineering from The University of Texas in 1937; that same year, he
8 joined the former State Department of Highways and Transportation
9 as an instrumentman in Sherman; and

10 WHEREAS, This dedicated individual was subsequently employed
11 in Paris, Clarksville, and Greenville before taking a leave of
12 absence to serve his country during World War II; he excelled as a
13 member of both the U.S. Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Navy,
14 gaining valuable experience for future challenges; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. DeBerry's career with the transportation
16 department continued after his military service and included
17 engineering positions in Emory, Greenville, San Antonio, and
18 Lufkin; in April 1960, he was named district engineer in Dallas, and
19 in 1968 he became the assistant state highway engineer; five years
20 later, he was appointed as the department's chief administrative
21 officer; in 1980, he retired as engineer-director; and

22 WHEREAS, His many affiliations include service on the
23 executive committee of the National Transportation Board and the
24 standing committee on engineering and operation of the American

1 Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
2 (AASHTO); he is also a former president of the Western Association
3 of State Highway and Transportation Officials; and

4 WHEREAS, A distinguished engineering graduate of The
5 University of Texas, Mr. DeBerry has received AASHTO's highest
6 award; in addition, his legacy of service with the transportation
7 department was commemorated with the establishment of the Luther
8 DeBerry Award, which honors individuals who make the greatest
9 contributions to transportation in Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, Throughout his exemplary career, Mr. DeBerry
11 demonstrated expert administrative skills and visionary
12 leadership; he has served the citizens of the Lone Star State with
13 dedication, integrity, and pride, and it is a privilege to
14 recognize him at this time; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
16 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby honor B. L. DeBerry on the
17 occasion of his 90th birthday and commend him for his immeasurable
18 contributions to the Texas Department of Transportation; and, be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Mr. DeBerry as an expression of high regard by the
22 Texas House of Representatives.