

By: Mabry

H.R. No. 227

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Frank Fallon, famed sportscaster of Baylor
2 University, passed away on April 30, 2004, at the age of 73, leaving
3 a great void in the lives of many in the communities of Waco and
4 Baylor University; and

5 WHEREAS, Dubbed the "Voice of the Baylor Bears," Mr. Fallon
6 had called Baylor basketball and football games for more than four
7 decades, painting the scenes of many triumphs and defeats for avid
8 Baylor fans with his distinctively resonant voice; and

9 WHEREAS, A San Antonio native, he began broadcasting Baylor
10 football games in 1953 while working for KWTX radio in Waco; he
11 later served as the station's general manager for 29 years and was
12 Baylor's coordinator of broadcast activities for more than a
13 decade; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1960, Mr. Fallon was recruited by the American
15 Football League to broadcast the games of the Houston Oilers; his
16 professionalism and skill in that endeavor earned him an invitation
17 to broadcast weekly games for ABC-TV, but he declined the offer,
18 preferring life in Waco to big-city living; and

19 WHEREAS, This beloved broadcaster's extraordinary career
20 also included 45 years of announcing Texas high school football
21 games, and countless football fans tuned in to hear his dulcet tones
22 dance on the Texas airways as prep-school athletes battled beneath
23 the Friday night lights; in addition, he was the public address
24 announcer for the NCAA Final Four for two decades and provided

1 play-by-play coverage of Southwest Conference basketball for NBC
2 and ESPN; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Fallon received several awards and honors in his
4 long career, including "Top 10 All-Time Radio Play-by-Play
5 Announcers" by the Texas Sportswriters Association; five-time
6 Texas Association of Broadcasters Sportscaster of the Year;
7 seven-time Associated Press Best Radio Play-by-Play Announcer;
8 induction into the Baylor Athletics Hall of Fame and the Texas High
9 School Football Hall of Fame; and honorary membership in the Texas
10 High School Football Coaches Association; and

11 WHEREAS, Most recently in 2001, Mr. Fallon was given the
12 Chris Schenkel Award from the National Football Foundation and
13 College Hall of Fame and the Baylor Communications Award for his
14 distinguished service in the field of broadcasting and his
15 contributions to the community; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Fallon was a friend to both players and coaches
17 alike and held a strong interest in the workings of the teams,
18 attending practices and sessions in an effort to improve his
19 already considerable knowledge of the sports he covered; he never
20 entertained the idea of working elsewhere and also taught a course
21 on broadcasting at Baylor University for 11 years; when he retired
22 in 1995, a banner displaying his microphone was hung in his honor
23 from the rafters of the school's basketball arena; and

24 WHEREAS, For 42 years, Mr. Fallon brought much enjoyment to
25 countless sports fans, and those listeners appreciated the fairness
26 and accuracy of his reporting; however, what will be cherished most
27 by those who knew him away from the microphone will be the memories

1 of a congenial and considerate man; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
3 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
4 Frank Fallon and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his
5 family: to his wife, June Fallon; to his sons, Steve Fallon, Mark
6 Fallon, Mike Fallon, and Kyle Fallon; to his five grandchildren;
7 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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