

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Blanco County lost a beloved friend and
2 neighbor with the death of William Maurice "Bill" Watson on
3 December 27, 2003, at the age of 73; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in LaBelle, Florida, in 1930, Mr. Watson moved
5 to Johnson City in the 1980s with his wife, Joy, who is a native of
6 that Hill Country town; a retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel and a
7 former resident manager of Blanco County's Browning Ranch, Mr.
8 Watson was known throughout the community as the volunteer
9 president and director of the North Blanco County Emergency Medical
10 Services (EMS) department; he staffed an ambulance during high
11 school football games and worked as a driver and paramedic for the
12 volunteer department; and

13 WHEREAS, Although it is not unusual for EMS directors in
14 rural areas to work for free, Mr. Watson's level of commitment was
15 extraordinary; a masterful administrator, fund-raiser, and
16 speaker, he was able to retain a healthy pool of volunteers and to
17 finance equipment purchases through bake sales, garage sales, and,
18 later, a successful appeal to area residents to vote for the
19 establishment of an emergency services district that would provide
20 tax money for the department; because there is no hospital in Blanco
21 County, a proficient EMS is crucial, and Mr. Watson's dedication
22 went a long way toward making the North Blanco County EMS one of the
23 best of all volunteer emergency services in the state; and

24 WHEREAS, His civic involvement went beyond his capable

1 management of the EMS department; chairman of the Capital Area
2 Trauma Regional Advisory Council, Mr. Watson was also an organizing
3 member of the Hill Country Critical Incident Stress Management Team
4 and an active member and former Grand Master of Johnson City Masonic
5 Lodge No. 561; he will be fondly remembered for his attendance at
6 nearly every Johnson City sporting event and commissioners court
7 meeting held in the past 10 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Described by one local resident as the community's
9 "medical angel of healing," this gentle, giving man touched
10 countless lives throughout Blanco County; although he will be
11 sorely missed by his family, friends, and neighbors, the legacy of
12 community service, goodwill, and generosity that he leaves behind
13 will not soon be forgotten; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
15 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby honor the memory of William
16 Maurice "Bill" Watson and extend sincere sympathy to the members of
17 his family: to his wife, Joy Watson; to his children, William Morris
18 Watson, Brenda Lynn Williams, and Denise Mick; to his brother,
19 Stanley Watson; to his six grandchildren and great-grandchild; and
20 to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William
24 Maurice "Bill" Watson.

Rose

H.R. No. 305

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 305 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 17, 2004.

Chief Clerk of the House