

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Abilene has lost a legendary figure with the passing  
2 of Harry Holt on May 6, 2004, at the age of 89; and

3           WHEREAS, A journalist who championed farming, ranching, and  
4 rural Texas, Mr. Holt was born on June 3, 1914, in Sweetwater; he  
5 became a member of 4-H at the age of six and graduated from Newman  
6 High School in Sweetwater in 1931; with money that he had saved  
7 while farming with his father, he went on to attend West Texas A&M  
8 University in Canyon, where he lived and worked on the college farm;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, In 1934 Mr. Holt returned to his hometown as a  
11 reporter for the *Sweetwater Reporter News*; he joined the *Abilene*  
12 *Reporter-News* several years later, and in 1952 he became farm and  
13 ranch director for KRBC Radio; shortly after KRBC-TV, Abilene's  
14 first television station, went on the air in 1953, Mr. Holt also  
15 assumed duties there as its farm and ranch editor; and

16           WHEREAS, Altogether, Mr. Holt's career as a journalist  
17 spanned seven decades, five of them as a radio and television  
18 broadcaster in Abilene; he filed his last reports for the NBC  
19 affiliate in that city in August 2003; and

20           WHEREAS, Over the course of his long professional life, Harry  
21 Holt mentored generations of younger journalists and, with the aid  
22 of a remarkably acute memory, developed a sweeping knowledge of  
23 area farm and family histories; and

24           WHEREAS,       Recognized       repeatedly       by       agricultural

1 organizations, he was twice named Honorary Agricultural  
2 Commissioner of Texas and in 1971 was selected as Man of the Year in  
3 Texas Agriculture; an agriculture scholarship was established in  
4 the names of Mr. Holt and his wife, Mary, in 2000, and in 2003 he  
5 received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the West Texas  
6 Rehabilitation Center; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Holt maintained a ranch himself in Eastland  
8 County, near Carbon; his affiliations included First Baptist Church  
9 in Abilene and the Masonic Lodge in Hylton, both of which counted  
10 him as a valued member; and

11 WHEREAS, A devoted husband to Mary Holt and the proud father  
12 of two daughters, Mary Jo and Betty Ann, Mr. Holt rejoiced as his  
13 family circle grew to include two grandchildren and three  
14 great-grandchildren; and

15 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan enjoyed a life that was rich in  
16 family, friends, and accomplishments, and his memory will be  
17 forever cherished by those who were privileged to share in his love  
18 and affection; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
20 Legislature, 4th Called Session, hereby pay special tribute to the  
21 life of Harry Holt and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his  
22 family: to his wife, Mary Clark Sturdivant Holt; to his daughters,  
23 Betty Ann Holt and Mary Jo Holt Smith and her husband, Jerrell; to  
24 his grandchildren, Leigh Ann Smith and Matt Smith and his wife,  
25 Rachel; to his great-grandchildren, Morgan, Chandler, and  
26 Eliesabeth Smith; to his sisters, Billye Meadows and Katherine  
27 Dyess; to his brother-in-law, Max Sturdivant and his wife, Oneta;

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1 and to all who join in mourning the loss of this beloved gentleman;  
2 and, be it further

3           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Harry Holt.

Hunter

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

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 336 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 17, 2004.

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Chief Clerk of the House