

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, With the passing of the Honorable John Ray Harrison,  
2 Sr., of Pasadena on December 22, 2001, at the age of 71, the State of  
3 Texas lost a longtime and much-esteemed public figure; and

4           WHEREAS, This native Texan was born in Abilene on August 2,  
5 1930, and graduated from Abilene High School; he later earned a  
6 bachelor's degree from McMurry College and a doctor of  
7 jurisprudence degree from South Texas School of Law; and

8           WHEREAS, A practicing attorney for more than a  
9 quarter-century, Mr. Harrison was elected to the Texas House of  
10 Representatives in 1964; he was named Outstanding Freshman Member  
11 during the 59th Legislature, and his achievements in office  
12 included passage of a bill raising the age for compulsory school  
13 attendance to 17 years and a bill that became a model for municipal  
14 ordinances requiring fences at public pools; and

15           WHEREAS, After serving on the Pasadena City Council for four  
16 years beginning in 1969, Mr. Harrison was elected mayor in 1973 and  
17 again in 1977, 1985, and 1989; during his outstanding tenure, he  
18 succeeded in constructing and renovating ballparks around the city  
19 and worked diligently to improve the quality of life for his  
20 constituents; from 1978 to 1985, Mr. Harrison served as a Texas  
21 state district judge for Harris County; and

22           WHEREAS, Widely respected for his able leadership, John Ray  
23 Harrison shared his time and energy generously with both  
24 professional and community organizations; a former president of the

1 Pasadena Bar Association, he also led the Harris County Mayors and  
2 Councils Association; and

3 WHEREAS, Other organizations that benefited from his active  
4 involvement include the Neighborhood Center, YMCA, Pasadena  
5 National Little League, and Pasadena Teenage Baseball, in addition  
6 to the Pasadena Rodeo Association and the Pasadena Barrister's Fast  
7 Pitch Association; he was, moreover, a valued member of the city's  
8 First United Methodist Church; and

9 WHEREAS, For his efforts, Mr. Harrison was named Pasadena's  
10 Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1960 and the city's Outstanding  
11 Male Citizen in 1980; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Harrison's devotion to his fellow Texans was  
13 surpassed only by his love of family, which included his wife of 53  
14 years, Barbara, seven children, and eight cherished grandchildren;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, One of the most prominent individuals in Pasadena  
17 public life for the past four decades, John Ray Harrison worked  
18 tenaciously for the betterment of his community, and the legacy he  
19 left behind lives on in the hearts and minds of the many people  
20 whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas  
22 hereby pay tribute to the life of John Ray Harrison, Sr., and extend  
23 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Barbara  
24 Harrison; to his sons and daughters-in-law, John Ray and Cyndi  
25 Harrison, Michael and Susan Harrison, Kipper Harrison, and Robert  
26 and Kelly Harrison; to his daughters and sons-in-law, Donna and  
27 Greg Upchurch, Nikki and Donald Caffey, and Nancy and Jim Farries;

1 to his brothers, Ben and Don Harrison; and to his grandchildren,  
2 other relatives, and many friends; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House  
5 of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in memory  
6 of John Ray Harrison, Sr.

Talton

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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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 24 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 12, 2003.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 24 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on May 29, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor