

By: Dutton

H.C.R. No. 41

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Former Houston Oilers defensive end Elvin Bethea has
2 received the highest honor in professional football with his
3 induction into the National Football League (NFL) Hall of Fame in
4 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, A two-time All-NAIA offensive lineman for North
6 Carolina A&T, Mr. Bethea was chosen by the Houston Oilers in the
7 third round of the 1968 NFL draft; during the next 16 years, he
8 demonstrated a rare gift for shedding blockers and tackling ball
9 carriers and proved to be one of the greatest players in the history
10 of the Houston Oilers; and

11 WHEREAS, The 6-foot-3 defensive end holds the Oiler record
12 for most games played, at 210, and most seasons played, at 16; he
13 appeared in a record-tying nine All-Star competitions, including
14 eight Pro Bowl games; he also led the team in quarterback sacks for
15 six seasons, and his 1973 total of 17 sacks remains the
16 single-season standard; and

17 WHEREAS, Formidable to opponents but cherished by teammates,
18 coaches, and fans, Mr. Bethea retired in 1983 and joined an elite
19 group that same year when the Oilers retired his jersey number; it
20 is a privilege at this time to pay tribute to the exceptional
21 athleticism and sterling career of this esteemed gentleman; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
24 hereby honor Elvin Bethea on his induction into the National

1 Football League Hall of Fame in 2003 and extend to him sincere best
2 wishes for success and happiness in the future; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Bethea as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives and Senate.