

By: Merritt

H.C.R. No. 279

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, For nearly a quarter-century, the Honorable Ralph M.
2 Hall of the U.S. House of Representatives has ably served his
3 constituents in the Fourth Congressional District, and the members
4 of the Texas Legislature are proud to join with the citizens of the
5 Lone Star State in paying tribute to this accomplished public
6 servant; and

7 WHEREAS, Born in Rockwall County on May 3, 1923, Congressman
8 Hall answered his country's call to arms in 1942, enlisting in the
9 United States Navy to serve as an aircraft carrier pilot during
10 World War II; on his return to civilian life, he built a happy home
11 life with his wife, the former Mary Ellen Murphy, a loving partner
12 with whom he has three sons, Hampton, Brett, and Blakeley, and
13 together they have welcomed five cherished grandchildren into the
14 family; and

15 WHEREAS, This outstanding gentleman, who attended The
16 University of Texas at Austin and Texas Christian University,
17 earned a bachelor of laws degree at Southern Methodist University;
18 he entered public office for the first time in 1950 to serve as
19 county judge of Rockwall County, leaving in 1962 to take his oath of
20 office as a new member of the Texas Senate; he served in that
21 capacity with great distinction for the next 10 years, holding the
22 position of president pro tempore during one of his terms; and

23 WHEREAS, Following his departure from the Texas Legislature
24 in 1972, he turned his attention to the private sector; he is the

1 former president and CEO of Texas Aluminum Corporation and, from
2 1970 to 1974, served as special counsel to the Howmet Corporation;
3 he is also a founding member and former chairman of Lakeside
4 National Bank in Rockwall; and

5 WHEREAS, With his extensive expertise in law, public service,
6 and business, the Honorable Ralph Hall was elected to the United
7 States House of Representatives in 1980; a longtime member of the
8 Committee on Energy and Commerce, he played a key role in the
9 passage of the Clean Air Act and has, over the years, shown himself
10 to be an ardent advocate for our state's oil and gas industries; and

11 WHEREAS, Congressman Hall is the ranking minority member of
12 the Committee on Science, as well as the former chairman of the
13 Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, and he has strongly
14 supported the International Space Station and NASA's continuing
15 space exploration efforts; veterans of the United States armed
16 forces could ask for no greater friend than this former naval
17 lieutenant, and his fiscal conservatism is well-known throughout
18 Washington, D.C., leading him in 1995 to sign on as one of the
19 original sponsors of the Balanced Budget Amendment; and

20 WHEREAS, This dedicated leader has an impressive record of
21 service in behalf of the people of Texas, and indeed of the entire
22 nation, and it is a privilege and an honor to recognize his many
23 remarkable achievements; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
25 hereby commend the countless contributions of the Honorable Ralph
26 M. Hall, U.S. congressman and former state senator, and extend to
27 him best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

H.C.R. No. 279

1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for Congressman Hall as an expression of high regard by the
3 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.