

By: Talton

H.R. No. 36

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The family and friends of Robert Earl Barfield of
2 Pasadena were deeply saddened by the passing of this notable Texan
3 on May 26, 2002, at the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, Born on February 13, 1919, in Brunson, Mr. Barfield
5 attended college at Sam Houston State University, where he lettered
6 in track, tennis, basketball, and football; graduating in 1940, he
7 subsequently earned a master of education degree from the
8 University of Houston; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Barfield began his coaching career at Cedar
10 Bayou and later held positions in Corrigan, Rosenberg, and Robstown
11 before he left to enter the United States military; and

12 WHEREAS, After serving his country, Mr. Barfield returned to
13 Cedar Bayou for seven years and led his team to five straight
14 district football titles; he joined the staff at Baylor University
15 in 1954 and was working as backfield coach when the Bears upset a
16 previously undefeated Tennessee team in the Sugar Bowl in 1957; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Barfield then settled in Pasadena, where he
18 coached the Pasadena High School football team for 15 years; in his
19 first year, he took the Eagles to the state finals, beginning a
20 tradition of success for which he is known to this day; this revered
21 coach concluded his career as assistant athletic director of the
22 Pasadena Independent School District (ISD), a position from which
23 he retired in 1977; and

24 WHEREAS, Throughout his lifetime, Coach Barfield received

1 myriad accolades; in 1965 he was chosen to lead the South Football
2 All-Stars, and in 1994 he was inducted into the Texas High School
3 Coaches Association Hall of Honor; a notable college athlete
4 himself, Mr. Barfield was also inducted into the Sam Houston State
5 University Hall of Honor and chosen to serve as president of the
6 Letterman's Association; and

7 WHEREAS, Perhaps his greatest public honor came in 1998, when
8 the Pasadena ISD recognized his exemplary standards as an educator,
9 coach, and gentleman with the dedication of the Robert E. Barfield
10 Sports Complex; and

11 WHEREAS, In addition to his professional success, Mr.
12 Barfield was a devoted husband, caring father and grandfather, and
13 valued citizen in his community; a Rotary Club member for many years
14 and a Paul Harris Fellow, he made many worthwhile contributions
15 while serving on the club's board of directors; and

16 WHEREAS, Admired for his personal integrity, dedication to
17 education, and excellence in coaching, Mr. Barfield will be greatly
18 missed but fondly remembered, and his spirit will long live on in
19 the hearts of the family, friends, and countless former students
20 whose lives he so deeply touched; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
22 Legislature hereby honor the memory of Robert Earl Barfield and
23 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife
24 of 61 years, Emma Marie Brame Barfield; to his sons and
25 daughters-in-law, Danny and Diane Barfield and Gary and Sharon
26 Barfield; to his grandchildren, Tiffany Barfield, Derek Barfield,
27 and Robert Barfield and his wife, Jennifer; to his brothers and

1 their wives, Harold and Mattie Mae Barfield, Billy Ray and Jean
2 Barfield, Curtis and Cecile Barfield, and Hinson and Andrea
3 Barfield; to his brother-in-law, Dr. Jim Bob Brame and his wife,
4 Holly; to his numerous nieces and nephews; and to his other
5 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
8 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Robert
9 Earl Barfield.