

By: Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 320

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On October 27, 2002, Emmitt Smith became the
2 National Football League's career rushing leader, eclipsing a
3 record set by Walter Payton that had stood unchallenged for 15
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith set the new rushing milestone in the
6 fourth quarter of the Cowboys' game against the Seattle Seahawks,
7 taking the ball over the left side for an 11-yard gain that
8 simultaneously vaulted him into the NFL history books; and

9 WHEREAS, An All-American and three-time All-SEC performer at
10 the University of Florida, he joined the Cowboys organization in
11 1990, and the qualities of speed, quickness, power, and competitive
12 spirit that had enabled him to become a collegiate star quickly
13 established Mr. Smith as one of the premier offensive threats in the
14 NFL; and

15 WHEREAS, Over the ensuing 13 years, Mr. Smith's consistently
16 high level of performance has won him four NFL rushing titles, the
17 league's Most Valuable Player award in 1993, Most Valuable Player
18 distinction for Super Bowl XXVIII, and three Super Bowl rings; and

19 WHEREAS, He was also a Pro Bowl selection eight times, more
20 than any other player in franchise history, was the first player to
21 record 11 1,000-yard rushing seasons in a career, and holds the NFL
22 record for most career rushing attempts; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith is a force to be reckoned with off the
24 field as well and has lent his time, energy, and celebrity to such

1 worthy organizations and initiatives as the Open Doors Foundation,
2 which he cofounded, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the United Way, Big
3 Brothers/Big Sisters, the Kidney Foundation, and others too
4 numerous to mention; and

5 WHEREAS, One of the greatest competitors ever to step onto
6 the playing field, Emmitt Smith is a gridiron legend whose
7 phenomenal accomplishments as a football player may never be
8 duplicated, and it is appropriate that he receive special
9 legislative recognition at this time; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
11 Legislature hereby congratulate Emmitt Smith on becoming the NFL's
12 all-time career rushing leader and extend to him sincere best
13 wishes for continued success; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Mr. Smith as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.