

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 391

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Kerrville lost a respected attorney and
2 beloved community leader with the passing of Joe Burkett on April
3 27, 2001; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Burkett made Kerrville his home in 1930 at the
5 age of 18; four years later, he opened the doors of his law office,
6 where he practiced for 66 years; and

7 WHEREAS, An active leader in state and local politics, this
8 distinguished gentleman was justice of the peace, county attorney,
9 and county judge of Kerr County; he served five terms in the Texas
10 House of Representatives, and as chairman of the House Insurance
11 Committee he was responsible for revising much of the state's
12 Insurance Code; and

13 WHEREAS, His service to the public totaled 29 years; in that
14 time, he held the office of United States commissioner for the
15 Western District of Texas and worked as a member of the Texas
16 Alcoholic Beverage Commission; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Burkett spent three years in the Texas National
18 Guard and four years in the United States Army, earning two Battle
19 Stars for his bravery in World War II; and

20 WHEREAS, This civic-minded gentleman was instrumental in
21 several community improvement projects in Kerrville, including the
22 expansion of the city's wastewater treatment facility, the Kerr
23 County Courthouse Annex construction, the construction of the dam
24 on the Guadalupe River, and the purchase of the electric

1 distribution system by the City of Kerrville from the Lower
2 Colorado River Authority; he was also on the board of trustees of
3 the Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation for 21 years; for his
4 innumerable efforts, Mr. Burkett was named Man of the Year by the
5 Kerrville Area Chamber of Commerce; and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, this admirable gentleman
7 exemplified the spirit of hard work, courage, and determination
8 that has made this country strong, and he will continue to serve as
9 an inspiration to all who were privileged to know him; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
12 Legislature hereby honor the life of Joe Burkett, Jr., and extend
13 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife, Pearl
14 Schwethelm Burkett; to his son, Joe Burkett III; to his sister,
15 Dorothy Alford; to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and
16 to his many other friends and relatives; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joe
20 Burkett, Jr.