

By: Hope

H.R. No. 606

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A half century of marriage is truly cause for
2 celebration and on April 6, 2003, Raleigh and Jackie Barker of April
3 Sound are marking that joyous event in their lives; and

4 WHEREAS, The couple met at a Kansas City, Missouri,
5 Presbyterian church where both were active congregants; they
6 married in that church on April 24, 1953, and take great pride in
7 their son, Keith Allen Barker, and his wife, Elisabeth, their
8 daughter, Kay Schwob, and her husband, Mark, and their
9 grandchildren, Rebecca and Isabel Barker and Heaston and Hunter
10 Schwob; and

11 WHEREAS, During her college career, Mrs. Barker took classes
12 toward a degree in English language and literature at the
13 University of Missouri--Kansas City, later wrote for several
14 newspapers when she moved to Montgomery County, and ultimately
15 became a writer for the *Houston Chronicle's* This Week in Montgomery
16 County neighborhood section; over the course of 12 years, she has
17 written more than 2,000 articles and earned numerous awards for her
18 excellence in writing; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Barker grew up on the Pine Ridge Indian
20 Reservation in Denby, South Dakota, where his family operated a
21 general store founded by his grandfather; after high school, he
22 served his country in the Philippines as a member of the Signal
23 Company of the United States Army's 31st Dixie Division; and

24 WHEREAS, Following his military discharge, Mr. Barker

1 resumed classes at the University of Nebraska, from which he
2 received a bachelor's degree; he pursued graduate studies, then
3 relocated to Kansas City, Missouri, for employment with an
4 accounting firm while he attained his CPA certification; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Barker and his family were transferred to Texas
6 during his 30-year career with Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company,
7 and at the time of his retirement in 1988, he held the post of
8 manager of corporate reporting; with his wife, he moved to April
9 Sound, near Montgomery, and the couple continue an active lifestyle
10 that includes an array of civic endeavors; and

11 WHEREAS, A charter member of the Lake Conroe Area Republican
12 Women, whose board she has served in various capacities, Mrs.
13 Barker has led the Friends of West Branch Library as president,
14 worked on a countywide committee that helped upgrade the library
15 system, and shared her time in various offices with the Montgomery
16 County Performing Arts Society; for her exemplary volunteerism, she
17 was named Woman of the Year in 1995 by the April Sound Ladies
18 Association; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Barker has shared his time and resources as a
20 patron of the arts in Montgomery County and served as an officer in
21 the Kiwanis Club of Lake Conroe and the April Sound Church; a member
22 of two duplicate bridge clubs, he plays in tournaments throughout
23 the state and generously offers his professional accounting
24 assistance to benefit nonprofit organizations; and

25 WHEREAS, This devoted couple have shared many happy times and
26 cherished family memories during their five decades together; their
27 commitment to each other is a source of inspiration to their loved

1 ones, and it is a pleasure to join in saluting them for their
2 enduring union; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
4 Legislature hereby congratulate Raleigh and Jackie Barker on the
5 memorable occasion of their golden wedding anniversary, and extend
6 to them warmest wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Barker as an expression of high regard by
9 the Texas House of Representatives.