

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 901

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, May 16, 2003, marks the golden wedding anniversary  
2 of Don and Rosie Benton of West Tawakoni, and this milestone  
3 provides a fitting opportunity to reflect on their enduring  
4 relationship; and

5           WHEREAS, A graduate of Austin Presbyterian Theological  
6 Seminary, Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist  
7 University (SMU), and Texas Wesleyan University (TWU), Dr. Benton  
8 has served as a Methodist minister for nearly five decades, and over  
9 the course of his career he has twice been called on to deliver the  
10 daily invocation for legislative bodies, speaking before the United  
11 States Senate in 1983 and the Texas House of Representatives on  
12 February 18, 2003; the author of four books and an organizer of the  
13 Kindness Foundation, he now is interim pastor at Lone Star United  
14 Methodist Church in Clarksville and is active in the Hella Black  
15 Horse Drill Team; and

16           WHEREAS, Throughout the couple's marriage, Mrs. Benton has  
17 given generously of her time and talents in support of countless  
18 worthwhile endeavors of her husband and his congregants; in 1983,  
19 this talented woman produced the play, *Papa was a Preacher*, based on  
20 an Aylene Porter novel by the same name; the book was later adapted  
21 into a motion picture, for which Mrs. Benton and her husband served  
22 as executive producers; and

23           WHEREAS, Avid travelers, the Bentons have visited all 50  
24 states as well as 38 countries, including mission trips to the

1 Philippines, South America, Haiti, and Africa; in addition, they  
2 will be going to Sweden, Norway, and Denmark this year in  
3 celebration of their 50th anniversary; and

4 WHEREAS, This loving couple are the proud parents of five  
5 children, Dink, Donna, David, Dallas, and Deborah Faye, and over  
6 the years, their family has grown to include Deborah's husband,  
7 Steve, and Dallas's wife, Stacy, and eight beloved grandchildren,  
8 Bonnie, Michael, Trey, Alec, Collin, Cody, Stephanie, and Paige;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Blessed with five decades of wonderful memories  
11 together, a large and loving family, and an enduring commitment to  
12 one another and to the institution of marriage, Dr. and Mrs. Benton  
13 truly have reason to celebrate, and it is a pleasure to join in  
14 honoring them at this time; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Don and Rosie Benton on the joyous  
17 occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary and extend to them  
18 sincere best wishes for much happiness as they continue their  
19 journey together; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Dr. and Mrs. Benton as an expression of high regard by  
22 the Texas House of Representatives.