

By: Dunnam

H.R. No. 1114

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, J. L. "Pete" Peters of Arlington died on January 21,
2 2003, at the age of 79, but he will long be remembered by those who
3 were privileged to share his affection and friendship over the
4 course of his full and generous life; and

5 WHEREAS, This native Texan was born February 1, 1923, in the
6 town of Yoakum in Lavaca County; Mr. Peters was the son and grandson
7 of immigrants from the Czech province of Moravia, John and Janie
8 Walden Peters and Johnnes and Johanna Peters, and he was the first
9 family member of his generation to be born in America; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Peters developed a reputation as a hard worker
11 at a young age while employed in his parents' grocery store in
12 Yoakum; after graduating from Yoakum High School in 1937, he worked
13 for the National Youth Administration in Houston during the Great
14 Depression and soon became a committed Democrat, having witnessed
15 firsthand the positive power of government action to change lives
16 for the better; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Peters sought his higher education at Iowa Tech,
18 but interrupted his studies to serve in the Army Air Corps during
19 World War II; based in Hawaii, he worked as an industrial specialist
20 for the War Department, and continued to serve the people of the
21 United States after the war through progressively responsible
22 positions in the Department of Defense; and

23 WHEREAS, A Master Mason for more than four decades and a
24 resident of Arlington for the past 28 years, Mr. Peters gave

1 generously of his time and talents in support of various community
2 organizations, including the Arlington Little Theatre; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Peters had a true passion for agriculture and
4 horticulture, and he was a longtime member of the Arlington Garden
5 Club and a valuable resource for family and friends who sought out
6 his input on landscaping, gardening, and small farming projects;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, A lifelong learner and avid reader, Mr. Peters
9 amassed an extensive personal library, which he donated to the Carl
10 and Mary Welhausen Library in his hometown of Yoakum so that his
11 collection could be enjoyed by all; and

12 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman's wit, charm, passion,
13 advice, counsel, and encouragement was a source of strength for his
14 family and friends and positively affected the lives of countless
15 others; and

16 WHEREAS, Pete Peters was the kind of man that is hard to find,
17 difficult to take leave from, and impossible to forget, and it is
18 most appropriate to honor his memory at this time; now, therefore,
19 be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of J. L. "Pete" Peters
22 and extend deepest sympathy to his wife, Bess Baker Peters, and to
23 his other loved ones, including Don and Sandra Kay Peters, Rodger
24 and Glai-Shan Peters, Myrna and Richard Ranck, Mike and Ann Cook,
25 Pat Woods, Alan Keel, D. Don and Norma Peters, his nine
26 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and his other
27 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

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1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
2 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
3 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of J. L.
4 "Pete" Peters.