

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Dr. Thomas Coats of Alpine has
2 brought a great loss to the family and friends of this esteemed
3 gentleman; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Coats was born in Hamlin on June 29, 1919, to
5 Harold and Gay Coats, who instilled in him the values and ideals
6 that would define his life; country, community, and family were of
7 paramount importance to him; and

8 WHEREAS, His patriotism and exceptional service with the U.S.
9 Navy were notable, and after serving in the Pacific he returned to
10 Massachusetts, where he met and married Miss Jane Ashley Coats; and

11 WHEREAS, The couple made a home for themselves in Alpine,
12 where Dr. Coats established an optometry practice that he
13 maintained for 55 years; a deep commitment to his community
14 encouraged Dr. Coats's involvement in a number of activities, from
15 his active membership at the First United Methodist Church to his
16 many years as a volunteer with the Rotary Club; and

17 WHEREAS, The warmth and good counsel of Dr. Coats will be
18 sorely missed, but his spirit lives on in the hearts and memories of
19 the many lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
21 Legislature pay tribute to the life of Dr. Thomas Coats and extend
22 sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his beloved wife,
23 Jane; to his sons, Ashley and Hal Coats; to his daughters, Palmer
24 Byerley and Nancy Rucker; to his grandchildren; to his siblings;

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1 and to his many other relatives and close friends; and, be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Thomas
6 Coats.

Gallego

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1872 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on June 1, 2003.

Chief Clerk of the House