

By: Wilson

H.R. No. 1974

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Soaring above the competition, Herbert D. Kelleher  
2 has taken Southwest Airlines to unprecedented heights during his  
3 outstanding tenure as the executive chairman of this legendary  
4 company; and

5           WHEREAS, Born in Haddon Heights, New Jersey, on March 12,  
6 1931, Mr. Kelleher attained a bachelor's degree at Wesleyan  
7 University and a law degree at New York University Law School, where  
8 he was an Olin Scholar and a Root-Tilden Scholar, respectively; and

9           WHEREAS, The president and chief executive officer of the  
10 airline for nearly two decades, he has held his current position  
11 since March 1978, and under his astute guidance, Southwest Airlines  
12 has established itself as one of the premier transportation  
13 companies in the United States; and

14           WHEREAS, This estimable gentleman has played an integral role  
15 in helping the company become one of the largest commercial airline  
16 carriers in the continental United States; starting out in 1971  
17 with a trio of planes that went to three Texas cities, Southwest  
18 Airlines has grown and prospered and now flies almost 2,800 flights  
19 a day and boasts more than 370 jets in its fleet; and

20           WHEREAS, During his distinguished career, Mr. Kelleher has  
21 earned almost every honor, distinction, and accolade imaginable,  
22 and his myriad accomplishments include *Texas Monthly's* CEO of the  
23 Century, *Inc* magazine's U.S. Master Entrepreneur, the Wright  
24 Brothers Memorial Trophy, the Franklin Institute's Bower Award for

1 Business Leadership, and induction into the U.S. Chamber Business  
2 Leadership Hall of Fame and the National Sales and Marketing Hall of  
3 Fame; and

4 WHEREAS, His impressive record speaks volumes about the  
5 positive impact he has had on the lives of countless people; for  
6 more than three decades, Texas has reaped the benefits of his  
7 experience, vision, and wisdom, and it is truly a privilege to pay  
8 tribute to Mr. Kelleher at this time; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby commend Herbert D. Kelleher for his immeasurable  
11 contributions to the field of commercial aviation and his lifetime  
12 of achievement and extend to him sincere best wishes for success and  
13 good fortune in his future endeavors; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for Mr. Kelleher as an expression of high regard by the  
16 Texas House of Representatives.