

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 237

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is proud to pay tribute to Emmitt James Smith III and to recognize February 26, 2003, as Emmitt Smith Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Emmitt Smith is one of the all-time, great running backs in National Football League history; his accomplishments include four season rushing titles, three Super Bowl titles, and 1993 league and Super Bowl XXVIII Most Valuable Player awards; and

WHEREAS, In the past season, he claimed the National Football League's all-time rushing record with 17,162 yards and is the first player in league history to rush for over 1,000 yards in 11 consecutive seasons; and

WHEREAS, The former National Collegiate Athletic Association All-American holds 58 school records at the University of Florida, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1996 by completing his course work during off-seasons; and

WHEREAS, Emmitt is respected by citizens across our state and nation, not only for his outstanding skills as an athlete, but also for his exceptional generosity and community leadership; he devotes much of his time supporting such charitable organizations as the Open Doors Foundation, established to help motivate and empower youths, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation; he is a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, and he was recently bestowed the Children's Medical Center/Athlete Role Model Award; and

WHEREAS, A devoted family man, Emmitt lives in Addison with his wife, Pat, their two daughters, Jasmin and Rheagen, and their son, Emmitt James Smith IV, who was born on his Dad's 33rd birthday; and

WHEREAS, As an athlete, Emmitt has made a tremendous mark in the annals of professional football; as a philanthropist, he has made an even deeper impression on the lives of thousands of youths and their families through his generous contributions and the time and effort he puts into serving his community, both on the local level and the national level; and

WHEREAS, On the field, he is an athletic champion, devoted to the game; off the field, he is an inspirational volunteer, dedicated to making a difference in the lives of his fellowman; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend Emmitt James Smith III for his outstanding achievements and declare February 26, 2003, Emmitt Smith Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Emmitt Smith as an expression of highest esteem from the Texas Senate.

		West
Armbrister	Fraser	Ogden
Averitt	Gallegos	Ratliff
Barrientos	Harris	Shapiro
Bivins	Hinojosa	Shapleigh
Brimer	Jackson	Staples
Carona	Janek	Van de Putte
Deuell	Lindsay	Wentworth
Duncan	Lucio	Whitmire
Ellis	Madla	Williams
Estes	Nelson	Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 26, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate