

By: McCall

H.R. No. 139

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost a world-renowned engineer
2 and Nobel laureate with the death of Jack St. Clair Kilby on June
3 20, 2005, at the age of 81; and

4 WHEREAS, With his monumental invention of the integrated
5 circuit in 1958, Mr. Kilby laid the foundation for the information
6 age and truly transformed the world and the way we live in it; his
7 semiconductor chip has made it possible for man to travel to the
8 moon and for consumer electronics to become an essential part of
9 modern life; and

10 WHEREAS, Raised in Great Bend, Kansas, Mr. Kilby pursued his
11 dream to become an engineer at the University of Illinois, where he
12 completed his bachelor's degree after returning from service in
13 World War II; in 1947, he began his career at the Centralab Division
14 of Globe Union, Inc., in Milwaukee, and first worked with
15 transistors, the building blocks for integrated circuits; he
16 received his master's degree in electrical engineering from the
17 University of Wisconsin and subsequently moved to Dallas to work
18 for Texas Instruments; and

19 WHEREAS, On September 12, 1958, Mr. Kilby held a laboratory
20 demonstration for his new invention: the first electronic circuit
21 in which all the components were fabricated in a single piece of
22 semiconductor material half the size of a paper clip; as his
23 invention transformed the industry, he continued to pioneer
24 military, industrial, and commercial applications of microchip

1 technology, and held several engineering management positions at
2 TI; in 1970, he became director of engineering and technology for
3 the components group, and though he officially retired from the
4 company in 1983, he continued his relationship with TI as a
5 consultant; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to his outstanding career with TI, Mr.
7 Kilby was a distinguished professor of electrical engineering at
8 Texas A&M University from 1978 until 1984; he was the recipient of
9 the National Medal of Science and was inducted into the National
10 Inventors Hall of Fame and, in 1990, he lent his name to The Kilby
11 Awards Foundation, an international awards program that
12 commemorates "the power of one individual to make a significant
13 impact on society"; holding more than 60 U.S. patents, including
14 one for the handheld calculator, which he coinvented, he also
15 received the Franklin Institute's Stuart Ballantine Medal, the
16 NAE's Vladimir Zworykin Award, the American Society of Mechanical
17 Engineers' Holley Medal, the IEEE's Medal of Honor, the Charles
18 Stark Draper Prize, the Cleo Brunetti Award, and the David Sarnoff
19 Award; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2000, this noteworthy Texan was awarded the Nobel
21 Prize in Physics for his invention of the integrated circuit; this
22 exceptional achievement marks the final chapter of a revolutionary
23 career that transformed global industry and everyday life; and

24 WHEREAS, With his practical, low-key demeanor, Jack Kilby was
25 a humble man, and was always quick to credit the many engineers who
26 followed in his footsteps and continued to develop the industry; he
27 will be dearly missed by all those who were privileged to know him

1 and he will long be remembered for the extraordinary contributions
2 that he made to science and to the information age; now, therefore,
3 be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
6 Jack St. Clair Kilby and extend deepest sympathy to the members of
7 his family: to his daughters, Ann Kilby and Janet Kilby Cameron; to
8 his grandchildren, Caitlan, Marcy, and Gwen Cameron, and Erica and
9 Katrina Venhuizen; to his son-in-law, Thomas Cameron; and to his
10 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for the members of his family and that when the Texas House
13 of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jack St.
14 Clair Kilby.