

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Les Vanover has recently celebrated the 50th
2 Anniversary of his graduation in 1954 from Abilene Christian
3 College, now Abilene Christian University, as a National Athletic
4 Intercollegiate Association National Champion in track and field;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, He cleared the winning height of 6'8-1/2" as a high
7 jumper in the Texas Relays Exhibition in the spring of 1955 and
8 cleared a jump at 6'10" even before the famous "Fosberry Flop" was
9 used in the sport; and

10 WHEREAS, He won the Texas Amateur Athletic Union high jump
11 competition in the summer of that same year; and

12 WHEREAS, He was given the opportunity to participate as an
13 Olympic prospect in the United States Army and accomplished a high
14 jump of 6'9", setting a new United States Army record at Ft. Leonard
15 Wood, Missouri, while still using the "old western belly-roll
16 style"; and

17 WHEREAS, He won the first Olympic trial meet held at Soldier
18 Field in Chicago with a first place jump of 6'8" and went on to
19 participate with the All-Army Team in Pasadena, California; and

20 WHEREAS, As an Army laboratory technician at a military
21 hospital in Germany, he participated in the Indoor Frankfurt
22 International Sports Festival in February 1957; and

23 WHEREAS, He received a plaque from General of the Army Mark
24 Clark as the European Track and Field Athlete of the Year as a high

1 jump champion and as a 110-meter hurdles champion; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Vanover grew up in Beaumont, Texas, and coached
3 in the Corpus Christi Independent School District; and

4 WHEREAS, He is now living in Granbury, Texas, where he was
5 recently featured in the Hood County News as an accomplished
6 wildlife painter at the age of 73, and he has won many awards for his
7 artistry; and

8 WHEREAS, He will be forever remembered as a world-class
9 champion in track and field; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
11 Legislature, 1st Called Session, join in celebrating the 50th
12 anniversary of Mr. Les Vanover's international success in track and
13 field and his continued success in life as a painter and in his
14 community; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for Les Vanover as well as one for his daughter, Kathryn,
17 and her husband, Mike Cox, of Granbury.

Hunter

H.R. No. 343

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 343 was adopted by the House on July 17, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House