

By: Merritt

H.R. No. 374

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Bill Ratliff, former lieutenant
2 governor and longtime state senator of the State of Texas, was
3 honored at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in
4 Boston, Massachusetts, on May 16, 2005, with the John F. Kennedy
5 Profile in Courage Award; and

6 WHEREAS, Named for President Kennedy's 1957 Pulitzer
7 Prize-winning book, *Profiles in Courage*, this prestigious award is
8 presented to individuals who demonstrate the courage to make
9 decisions of conscience without regard for the consequences; past
10 recipients of the award include United Nations Secretary-General
11 Kofi Annan, former United States President Gerald Ford, and former
12 United States Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez; and

13 WHEREAS, During his distinguished career in the Texas
14 Legislature, Senator Ratliff was an effective and efficient leader
15 who supported an inclusive style of governing; moreover, he wrote
16 and secured passage of landmark education legislation and was
17 instrumental in improving health insurance and access to Medicaid
18 for Texans; and

19 WHEREAS, Although his record of service alone was sufficient
20 to warrant his selection for this honor by the bipartisan Profile in
21 Courage Award committee, Senator Ratliff received special
22 commendation for his efforts during the state's redistricting
23 process; and

24 WHEREAS, Bill Ratliff has inspired countless Americans with

1 his dedication to preserving the ideals of democracy and his
2 willingness to stand up for his beliefs, and he is to be commended
3 for setting an encouraging example; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
5 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby congratulate the Honorable
6 Bill Ratliff on his receipt of the 2005 John F. Kennedy Profile in
7 Courage Award and extend best wishes to him for a future filled with
8 happiness and success.