

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

In Memory  
of  
James Jarrell Pickle

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of the Honorable James Jarrell "Jake" Pickle, Congressman, statesman, and voice for the common man, who died June 18, 2005, at the age of 91; and

**WHEREAS**, A congressional district served by such historical figures as Lyndon Baines Johnson and Homer Thornberry requires a person of great stature to stand on the shoulders of the giants of the past, and Jake Pickle was such a man; with a formidable will and a prodigious capacity for work, he gave voice to the hopes and aspirations of countless Texans during his years of illustrious service to his state and nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Born October 11, 1913, in the West Texas town of Roscoe, Jake Pickle grew up in Big Spring, where he learned the values of education, hard work, and honesty, traits that were to mark a life and career spent in devoted service to his constituents and to his state; and

**WHEREAS**, Jake's involvement in politics began at an early age when he was elected student body president at The University of Texas at Austin; he proceeded to develop a lifelong commitment to the university and dedicated himself to directing millions of dollars to its research, technology, and educational programs; The University of Texas Balcones Research Center was renamed the J.J. Pickle Research Campus in his honor in 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, After his graduation from the university, Jake served as an area director for the National Youth Administration; in 1942, he joined the United States Navy, and that same year, he married Ella Nora "Sugar" Critz; and

**WHEREAS**, In the 1940s, Jake cofounded the radio station KVET and an advertising firm, Syers-Pickle and Winn; throughout the 1950s, Jake served on the State Democratic Executive Committee, and in the 1950s and 1960s, he played a significant role in the campaigns of such state and national officials as Price Daniel, Allen Shivers, John Connally, and Lyndon Johnson; in 1952, Sugar Pickle passed away, and in 1960, he married Beryl Bolton McCarroll; and

**WHEREAS**, Elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1963, Jake served the 10th Congressional District for 32 years, bringing his constituents numerous vital programs and services; he also contributed significantly to the growth of Austin by bringing the technological consortium SEMATECH to the city, and he was a greatly admired community leader who was active in numerous civic and charitable organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, Jake Pickle's signal achievement in Congress was his passage of the 1983 Social Security reform bill, which rescued the program from insolvency, helping to ensure generations of Americans freedom from want into their retirement years; and

**WHEREAS**, The vote most representative of the courage and integrity of Jake Pickle, and the one of which he was proudest, was his vote for passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act; one of only six Southern representatives to vote for the bill, Jake refused to let the possibility of defeat at the polls deter him from listening to the dictates of his conscience; and

**WHEREAS**, A giant in the history of Texas politics, Jake Pickle helped shape Texas into the prosperous state it is today and was involved in the major legislative and social reforms of late 20th century America; and

**WHEREAS**, A highly respected and well-loved man, Jake walked through life with strength and integrity, and he was an inspiration to all who knew him; and

**WHEREAS**, A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Jake Pickle lived a full and complete life, and he leaves behind memories that will be cherished forever by his family and countless friends; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of James Jarrell "Jake" Pickle: his wife of 45 years, Beryl; his daughter and son-in-law, Peggy Pickle and Donald Cook; his stepsons and their wives, Dick McCarroll and Missy and Graham McCarroll and Marsha; his brother, Joe Pickle; his sister, Judith Pickle Lancaster; and his six grandchildren and four great-granddaughters; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the Honorable James Jarrell "Jake" Pickle.

Barrientos

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 27, 2005, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate