

By: Haggerty

H.R. No. 52

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The certain knowledge of a life well lived may  
2 temper the sorrow felt at the passing of the Honorable James Jay  
3 Kaster V of Austin on July 22, 2005, at the age of 72; and

4 WHEREAS, A native Texan, Mr. Kaster was born July 4, 1933, in  
5 El Paso; he graduated with honors from Texas Western College, now  
6 The University of Texas--El Paso, in 1957 and served his country  
7 with distinction in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War; and

8 WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman was elected to the Texas  
9 House of Representatives in 1971, and during his eight years as a  
10 member of this body, he was an effective and articulate voice for  
11 his district; and

12 WHEREAS, Continuing his public service, he became El Paso  
13 County tax assessor-collector and served as legislative liaison for  
14 Governor William P. Clements from 1979 to 1983 and also in 1987;  
15 confident in Mr. Kaster's leadership abilities, Governor Clements  
16 appointed him to the Industrial Accident Board and as chairman of  
17 the Texas Employment Commission; and

18 WHEREAS, He served as chief of staff of the General Staff of  
19 the Confederate Air Force in Midland, and he was on the McDonald  
20 Observatory Board of Visitors for more than 20 years; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Kaster was also active in Lions International  
22 and dedicated countless hours to the El Paso Downtown Lions Club and  
23 the Austin Founders Lions Club, which he served as president, and he  
24 went on to hold the position of district governor; the organization

1 recognized his many contributions with three International  
2 President's Awards and the group's highest honor, the Ambassador of  
3 Goodwill Award; and

4 WHEREAS, After his retirement, he enjoyed driving a school  
5 bus for the Eanes Independent School District and pursued his  
6 hobbies of flying and cooking; above all else, he took great pride  
7 in his large and loving family, and spending time with them was his  
8 greatest joy; and

9 WHEREAS, Held in high regard by all who knew him, Jim Kaster  
10 embraced life and adventure and brought to all his pursuits a hearty  
11 zestfulness and unshakeable integrity; he is sorely missed and will  
12 be forever treasured by those who were privileged to be a part of  
13 his world; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
15 Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
16 James Jay Kaster V and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his  
17 family: to his children, Jim Kaster VI, Deborah Pfluger and her  
18 husband, Brad, Laura Mathews and her husband, Tom, Kathie Geary,  
19 John Kaster, and Rustie Kaster; to his grandchildren, Grant,  
20 Audrey, and Marshal Pfluger, Austin and Taylor Geary, and Kayla,  
21 Devin, and Haley Kaster; to his sister, Dr. Barbara Kaster; to his  
22 niece, Kimberly Herard; and to his other relatives and many  
23 friends; and, be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the  
27 Honorable James Jay Kaster V.