

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

In Memory
of
William F. Anderson

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of Austin in mourning the loss of William F. Anderson, who died July 27, 2005, at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, It is the rare individual whose actions make a positive impact on those most in need of a helping hand; Bill Anderson was such a man, helping generations of at-risk youth by facilitating sweeping changes to the state's juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, Bill was born August 14, 1925, in Brownwood; he served in World War II in the United States Army Air Corps as a tailgunner in B-29s and achieved the rank of sergeant in the counterintelligence branch; and

WHEREAS, After the war, Bill returned to Texas and attended Southwestern University; upon receiving his degree, he went to rural Miles, Texas, where he worked as a teacher and principal; he then moved to Austin to attend The University of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Bill began his 30 years of service to the children and families of Travis County when he was named superintendent of the Travis County Juvenile Detention Home in 1952; he ended the practice of having African American children eat in the kitchen with the cooks, insisting that all the children were to be treated equally; and

WHEREAS, Bill was soon named chief juvenile probation officer of Travis County, a position he held for 25 years; during his time as chief, he created the Delinquency Prevention Division and designed the Protective Services and Foster Home programs, and he was instrumental in developing the first Travis County Child Welfare Unit; and

WHEREAS, During the 1970s, Bill developed the Drug and Substance Abuse Treatment Project, the Big Brothers program, the first Juvenile Public Defender Project in the United States, and the Probation Officer Exchange program between London, England, and the Travis County Juvenile Probation Department; and

WHEREAS, Bill's proposal for a statewide agency to provide standardized care and treatment for juvenile offenders was implemented, creating the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission; as the commission's first executive director, he created the Children's Border Project, a landmark project dealing with international juvenile issues; and

WHEREAS, A man of courage, strength, and compassion, Bill gave generously of himself to others, and his wisdom, warmth, and valued counsel will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Bill leaves behind memories that will be cherished forever by his family and many friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of William Anderson: his wife of 39 years, Martha Jane Anderson; his son and daughter-in-law, Eric Allan and Betty Anderson; his step-children, Suzanne Ford, Brad Coleman, and Angela Coleman; and his eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; 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 William F. Anderson.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 8, 2005, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate