

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 399

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Robert E. Holladay of Abilene has inspired countless
2 students in the fields of literature, film, and the visual arts in
3 his 42-year career as a teacher at Cooper High School and his 12
4 years on the faculty of McMurry University, and he has enriched the
5 lives of numerous area residents through his involvement in the
6 arts; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Holladay earned his bachelor's degree from
8 Hardin-Simmons University and his master's degree from Southern
9 Illinois University; and

10 WHEREAS, He has been involved in every curriculum guide and
11 reunion for 12th-grade English at Cooper High from 1965 to the
12 present, and he established the Cooper Film Society for the benefit
13 of the school's students and the general public; and

14 WHEREAS, Thousands of students have benefited from his
15 extensive knowledge and unparalleled insight into filmmaking and
16 film history, and he has shared his fine personal library of films
17 and film posters with his students as well as with the community at
18 large; as the result of his efforts, the Abilene Independent School
19 District possesses a 50-foot movie screen, the largest in the city;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Known as "Mr. Paramount of Abilene," Mr. Holladay
22 has served as film director for the historic Paramount Theatre for
23 the past 20 years and, since the 1970s, has given of his weekends
24 and evenings over many years to enrich the experience for countless

1 numbers of moviegoers, presenting popular introductions to the
2 Classic Film Series at the theatre; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to his service on the Paramount board of
4 directors, he has contributed to numerous other community
5 organizations, including the boards of the Abilene Presentation
6 League, the Abilene Community Theatre, the Abilene Civic Ballet,
7 the Society of Film Appreciation Club, the Abilene Fine Arts
8 Museum, the Abilene Center for Contemporary Arts, the National
9 Center for Children's Literature, and the Abilene Opera
10 Association; moreover, the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council
11 recognized him with the Outstanding Contribution to the Arts Award
12 in 1988, and he was further honored with a Distinguished Alumnus
13 Award from Hardin-Simmons University; and

14 WHEREAS, Robert Holladay's devotion to teaching, his
15 untiring dedication to the visual arts, and his outreach to the
16 community have combined to make him one of Abilene's most beloved
17 and respected citizens; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
19 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, hereby honor Robert Holladay of
20 Abilene for his many contributions as an educator and as an engaged
21 community member and extend to him sincere best wishes for
22 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Mr. Holladay as an expression of high regard by the
25 Texas House of Representatives.