

By: Baxter

H.C.R. No. 28

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Philip A. Berkebile retired from his position as
2 executive vice president of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association
3 (TDNA) at the end of 2004, bringing to a close an exceptional career
4 in the newspaper industry that has spanned more than four decades;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout his 20-year tenure with the TDNA, Mr.
7 Berkebile has made numerous invaluable contributions to the
8 organization, including the improvement and expansion of its
9 service to Texas daily newspapers in all areas of operation, the
10 implementation of an array of programs that resulted in voluntary
11 newsprint recycling, on-line reporting training, and the continued
12 enhancement of journalism education in the state; in addition,
13 under his guidance, the association has remained instrumental in
14 upholding freedom of information by supporting the preservation of
15 the state's open meetings and open records laws; and

16 WHEREAS, The son of a former Kansas daily newspaper
17 publisher, Mr. Berkebile began his professional career in 1960 at
18 the *Abilene Reflector-Chronicle*, where he worked as a reporter and
19 photographer; in 1967, he became the manager of the Dodge City,
20 Kansas, Chamber of Commerce and, two years later, began his tenure
21 as executive vice president of the chamber of commerce in Hastings,
22 Nebraska; before joining the TDNA in 1985, Mr. Berkebile served for
23 11 years as general manager of the Nebraska Press Association in
24 Lincoln; and

1 WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Mr. Berkebile has been active
2 in a host of organizations and efforts, both civic and
3 professional, including the National Newspaper Association, the
4 Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi, the Hitchcock
5 Foundation, Kiwanis International, the United Fund campaign, the
6 Sabin Oral Vaccine campaign, and the U.S. Savings Bond campaign;
7 moreover, he has demonstrated his dedication to the future of the
8 news industry through his involvement with the University of
9 Nebraska School of Journalism and the Texas Tech University School
10 of Mass Communications, where he is a founding member of the board
11 of directors; and

12 WHEREAS, Earning the lasting respect of his colleagues, Phil
13 Berkebile has set high standards of excellence and professionalism
14 to which all may aspire; although his leadership will be sincerely
15 missed, he leaves behind an important legacy of service and
16 achievement, benefiting not only the state's daily newspapers but
17 ultimately all the people of Texas who read them; now, therefore, be
18 it

19 RESOLVED, That the 79th Legislature of the State of Texas
20 hereby congratulate Philip A. Berkebile on his retirement as
21 executive vice president of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association
22 and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success and
23 happiness; and, be it further

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