

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 467

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Sam Houston Burris of Alice has distinguished  
2 himself as an able attorney, a devoted husband and father, and a  
3 vital and valued member of the South Texas legal community, and it  
4 is indeed fitting on the occasion of his retirement to reflect on  
5 this notable Texan's many accomplishments; and

6           WHEREAS, A graduate of Alice High School, Mr. Burris served  
7 in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II as a bomber engineer  
8 and gunner and as a paratrooper delivering supplies to the French  
9 and Norwegian resistance movements and was awarded five Battle  
10 Stars, the Air Medal Oak Leaf with Clusters, and the European  
11 Theater of Operations Medal; and

12           WHEREAS, On his return to Texas, Mr. Burris worked in the oil  
13 fields at night while pursuing his education by day, earning a  
14 bachelor's degree in business from Texas A&I University and a law  
15 degree from The University of Texas at Austin; and

16           WHEREAS, Over the course of his law career he served as county  
17 attorney for Jim Wells County, assistant attorney general for the  
18 State of Texas, and district attorney for the 79th Judicial  
19 District of Texas, and his work in these offices encompassed some of  
20 the state's most remarkable cases; and

21           WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Mr. Burris has drawn strength  
22 and sustenance from his loving and close-knit family, including his  
23 wife, the former Dorothy Rutledge; their children, Sam Houston  
24 Burris, Jr., and Barrett Holland Burris; their granddaughters,

1 Leah, Diana, Katherine, and Sarah Burris; and their great-grandson,  
2 Jackson Blake Burdett; and

3 WHEREAS, A gifted orator, Mr. Burris has served as a lay  
4 preacher in Methodist and Presbyterian churches across South Texas  
5 and has also contributed his time and talent to the community of  
6 faith at United Methodist Church, where he has served as chairman of  
7 the board and as a Sunday school teacher; and

8 WHEREAS, The conclusion of an exemplary 53-year career by a  
9 man who has given so much to his community, state, and nation does  
10 truly merit special recognition; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby honor Sam Houston Burris on the occasion of his  
13 retirement and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future;  
14 and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Mr. Burris as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
17 House of Representatives.