

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 844

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, C. Fred Chambers and William Duncan Kennedy are
2 being posthumously inducted into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on
3 April 14, 2005, at the Petroleum Museum in Midland; and

4 WHEREAS, The Petroleum Hall of Fame recognizes individuals
5 who have made significant contributions to the development of the
6 petroleum industry and impacted their communities through civic and
7 social involvement; and

8 WHEREAS, Both natives of Dallas, Fred Chambers and Bill
9 Kennedy formed a partnership in 1953 in the pursuit of oil and gas
10 properties and eventually opened an exploration office in Houston,
11 which became the headquarters of C&K Petroleum; their successful
12 business was active in the Permian Basin, and they drilled wells in
13 Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, the Gulf Coast, the
14 Mid-Continent, the Rocky Mountains, and Western Canada; their
15 activity led to many field discoveries, including the Hamon and
16 Toro gas fields and the Mestena Grande Field; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1966, Mr. Chambers and Mr. Kennedy joined forces
18 with J. M. C. Ritchie of New York to form a Canadian corporation
19 known as the Rock, or Ritchie Oil C&K, and they later founded C&K
20 Nederland Company to acquire oil and gas concessions from the Dutch
21 government; in 1970, the two men exchanged their partnership assets
22 in C&K Petroleum for common stock, and the company went public the
23 following year; it was later sold to Alaska Interstate in 1980; and

24 WHEREAS, After the sale of the company, Mr. Chambers

1 continued to explore oil and gas opportunities; before his passing
2 in 1989, he volunteered his time for numerous organizations and
3 institutions, including St. Ann's School, the National Petroleum
4 Council, the Texas Bar Association, the All American Wildcatters
5 Association, the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and
6 The University of Texas development board; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Kennedy also contributed to many civic and
8 professional organizations, including the All American Wildcatters
9 Association, the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, the Texas
10 Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, and St. Ann's Catholic
11 Church; he remained active in the oil industry until his death in
12 2002, exploring for oil and gas in all the major U.S. basins as well
13 as in Australia and Russia; an oil field in Loving County has been
14 named the Bill Kennedy Field in his memory; and

15 WHEREAS, The achievements of Fred Chambers and Bill Kennedy
16 as industry and community leaders distinguished them among the
17 members of their profession, and they are indeed deserving of this
18 posthumous award; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the lives of C. Fred Chambers and
21 William Duncan Kennedy as they are inducted into the Petroleum Hall
22 of Fame and extend to their families sincere gratitude for the
23 outstanding professional accomplishments and civic contributions
24 made by these two men; and, be it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for the families of Mr. Chambers and Mr. Kennedy as an
27 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.