

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, William S. Thomas, a native Texan and longtime  
2 Austinite, is celebrating his 80th birthday on March 31, 2005; and

3           WHEREAS, Born in Abilene in 1925, Mr. Thomas lived in  
4 Colorado during his adolescence before returning to the city of his  
5 birth as a teenager; he graduated from Abilene High School in 1943  
6 and attended Southern Methodist University until his education was  
7 interrupted by his service in the U.S. Army during World War II; and

8           WHEREAS, After his discharge from the military, he was  
9 employed by Magnolia Oil Company; a man with a strong interest in  
10 education, Mr. Thomas returned to SMU and received a bachelor of  
11 business administration degree in professional accounting on  
12 August 28, 1953; he went on to earn a juris doctorate from SMU  
13 School of Law on May 28, 1956, and, while practicing law, returned  
14 to his alma mater to complete a master of arts degree in geology  
15 eight years later; and

16           WHEREAS, In 1964, Mr. Thomas moved his family to Austin,  
17 where he has managed personal investments for many years; a  
18 licensed private pilot, he is a devoted family man as well who will  
19 celebrate his 54th wedding anniversary with his wife, the former Jo  
20 Ann Alexander, on September 8, 2005; today, his close-knit family  
21 also includes his son and daughter-in-law, Charles William Thomas  
22 and Leigh Peters Thomas, his daughter and son-in-law, Jill Thomas  
23 Ford and Ron William Ford, and his grandchildren, Lauren Elizabeth  
24 Thomas, Ross William Thomas, Allison Ford, and Courtney Ford; and

1           WHEREAS, The birthday of William Thomas provides a fitting  
2 opportunity to honor this esteemed Texan for his myriad  
3 achievements and to remind him of the high regard in which he is  
4 held by a great many people; now, therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby congratulate William S. Thomas on the occasion  
7 of his 80th birthday and extend best wishes to him for a joyful and  
8 memorable celebration; and, be it further

9           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
10 prepared for Mr. Thomas as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
11 House of Representatives.

Allen of Dallas

H.R. No. 947

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 947 was adopted by the House on March 31, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House