

By: Allen of Dallas

H.R. No. 947

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.