

By: Straus

H.R. No. 1015

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, With the passing of Robert S. Morris on March 14,
2 2005, at the age of 71, the people of San Antonio have lost a highly
3 regarded architect whose work included numerous homes, the
4 Ecumenical Center for Religion and Health, and plans for the Alamo
5 grounds; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of San Antonio, Mr. Morris was born into a
7 family whose forebears include one of the original Canary Island
8 families who founded the city's first municipal government; and

9 WHEREAS, This proud Texan attended Phillips Exeter Academy,
10 where he was named a Prep School All-American swimmer, and received
11 both bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from Stanford
12 University, where he was a varsity team swimmer; and

13 WHEREAS, After completing his army service as a field
14 artillery officer and later in military intelligence, he returned
15 to his hometown and established a successful career as an architect
16 known for exceptional skill and creative vision; and

17 WHEREAS, Other structures that he designed include the
18 Southwest Airlines Reservation Center and Saint Mary's Hall Chapel
19 Theater, and he directed the renovation of the Chapel House at the
20 Bishop Jones Center of the Diocese of West Texas, Capers Hall at St.
21 Mark's Episcopal Church, and the gift store at the Alamo, where he
22 served as staff architect for that venerable Texas site; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Morris devoted a significant amount of time to
24 the Episcopal Church, serving with the diocesan development

1 committee and the Mustang Island Conference Center development
2 committee and chairing the diocesan commission of church building,
3 and he was senior warden at both St. Mark's and Christ Episcopal
4 Churches; among many career-related and civic affiliations, he was
5 a past president of the Order of the Alamo, the San Antonio German
6 Club, the Conopus Club of San Antonio, and The Argyle; and

7 WHEREAS, Robert Morris was a gracious and giving gentleman
8 who made a lasting contribution to his community through his work
9 and his civic involvement; he will be deeply missed, but his memory
10 will live on in the hearts of his loved ones; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Robert S. Morris and
13 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife of
14 45 years, Lillian Padgitt Morris; to his children and their
15 spouses, Catherine and Hans Helland, Hannah Morris, and James and
16 Sally Morris; to his grandchildren, Sarah and Will Helland and Lily
17 and Zoe Morris; to his brothers, John Gideon Morris, Jr., Thomas
18 Joseph Morris, and David and Michael Gaines; and to his other
19 relatives and many friends; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
22 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Robert S.
23 Morris.