

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 1027

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with meaningful
2 accomplishments and joyful experiences may comfort the family and
3 friends of Robert Anthony Proffitt of Liberty Hill, who died on
4 October 17, 2004; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on October 20, 1942, in Kansas City, Missouri,
6 Tony Proffitt was a veteran political strategist and top adviser to
7 well-known politicians in the State of Texas; prior to his
8 successful career in politics, he attended Rockhurst College in
9 Kansas City, served in the U.S. Army Reserves, and worked as a
10 photographer for the *Temple Daily Telegram* and as a reporter for the
11 *Austin American-Statesman*; in 1966, he joined U.S. Representative
12 Jake Pickle's staff as a press spokesman in Austin and later moved
13 to Washington, D.C., where he worked for the congressman and in
14 President Lyndon Johnson's White House; and

15 WHEREAS, After returning to Texas, he worked on the initial
16 bond campaign that led to the creation of the Dallas/Fort Worth
17 regional airport, assisted Land Commissioner Bob Armstrong, and
18 worked for Joe Christie as research director at the State Board of
19 Insurance; in the late 1970s, he began a decades-long professional
20 relationship and personal friendship with Bob Bullock; after
21 Lieutenant Governor Bullock left office, Mr. Proffitt became a
22 government affairs consultant and advised an array of clients on
23 the intricacies of dealing with lawmakers and state agencies; and

24 WHEREAS, While he was immensely successful in the political

1 arena, his first love often appeared to be not politics but
2 chickens; as owner and resident of Stoney Acres Farm, a 33-acre
3 patch of land north of Austin, Mr. Proffitt delighted in bringing
4 brown eggs to Capitol officeholders and staff members; he also
5 loved working on his hardscrabble land, chopping cedar and tending
6 to the demands of a working ranch; and

7 WHEREAS, Known for his soft-spoken demeanor and humility,
8 Mr. Proffitt built an impressive career working behind the scenes
9 in Texas politics; he was a much-treasured member of our community
10 and will be dearly missed by all those who were privileged to know
11 him and by those who were touched by his deep commitment to the Lone
12 Star State; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Tony Proffitt and
15 extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his mother,
16 Dorothy; to his brother, David; and to his other relatives and many
17 friends; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Tony
21 Proffitt.