

By: Goolsby

H.R. No. 1061

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Five and a half decades of marriage is a special
2 reason for celebration, and on July 28, 2005, John and Jackie
3 Gilbert of Helotes are marking their 55th wedding anniversary,
4 which they will commemorate with a week-long Caribbean cruise in
5 the company of their children; and

6 WHEREAS, An exotic locale was the setting for their
7 fortuitous meeting, for the pair became acquainted when both lived
8 in the Panama Canal Zone, albeit on opposite sides of the isthmus; a
9 native of Astoria, New York, the future Mrs. Gilbert attended
10 Cristobal High School, while Mr. Gilbert, born in Panama, Republic
11 of Panama, was a member of the student body at Balboa High School;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, John Frederick Gilbert and Jacqueline Catherine
14 Gilbert began their journey as husband and wife on July 28, 1950, in
15 a ceremony held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ancon, Canal Zone;
16 through the years, the Gilberts have nurtured an inspiring
17 relationship built on a solid foundation of mutual love, trust, and
18 respect; and

19 WHEREAS, Cherished by their family, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert have
20 been richly blessed with four sons, John, Stephen "Steve", Robert
21 "Bo", and Michael "Mike" Gilbert, and one daughter, Catherine
22 "Kate" Reddout, and their joy has been compounded as they have
23 welcomed 19 grandchildren into their close-knit family; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gilbert has been a loving wife and mother and a

1 dedicated homemaker throughout her marriage, as well as a highly
2 regarded employee during her notable career in civil service, which
3 included a tenure working for the Bureau of Vital Statistics; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Gilbert, affectionately known as "Bucky", is a
5 proud veteran of the United States Navy; following his discharge
6 from the service, he joined the Canal Zone Police Force, retiring in
7 1976 as assistant district police commander with the rank of
8 captain; and

9 WHEREAS, During the years devoted to raising their family,
10 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert delighted in supporting the myriad sports
11 endeavors and interests of their children; family time also
12 consisted of church activities, weekend picnics and target practice
13 at the police shooting range, and Sunday volleyball games on the
14 court behind the Gilberts' house, where dozens gathered to compete
15 in spirited "jungle ball" games; and

16 WHEREAS, Since settling in Bexar County nearly three decades
17 ago, the Gilberts have learned square dancing, held leadership
18 positions with the Alamo Area Square and Round Dancing Club, and
19 coordinated registration and housing for a national square dance
20 convention held in the Alamo City; further, they have embarked on
21 nearly two dozen cruises to such diverse destinations as Alaska,
22 Europe, Russia, England, and the Caribbean, enjoyed trips to Las
23 Vegas, and remained avid bowlers, with Mr. Gilbert casting himself
24 in the role of the grandchildren's bowling coach after an
25 impressive 290-point game convinced him they could benefit from his
26 expertise; and

27 WHEREAS, For 55 years, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert have shared the

1 trials and triumphs of marriage and parenthood, and it is a distinct
2 pleasure to join in recognizing them for the happy and rewarding
3 life they have built together; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
5 Legislature hereby warmly congratulate John and Jackie Gilbert on
6 the joyous occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary and extend to
7 them heartfelt best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it
8 further

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