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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Five decades of marriage is truly reason for celebration, and on April 23, 2005, Jim and Mary King of Brownsville are observing this memorable milestone with a renewal of their wedding vows at St. Mary's Catholic Church, followed by a reception hosted by their family; and

WHEREAS, James Joseph King, Jr., and Mary Catherine Byrne met in an American history class at Lillis High School in Kansas City, Missouri; their friendship was interrupted with Mr. King's enlistment in the U.S. Air Force and training in San Antonio, but a fortuitous transfer to Topeka, Kansas, brought him within 70 miles of his sweetheart in Kansas City, where she attended business school and was employed with Lowe and Campbell; and

WHEREAS, After they resumed dating, the young couple enjoyed dancing to big band music at the Playmore Ball Room and attending the Starlight Theater in Swope Park; their Thanksgiving 1954 engagement was followed with an April wedding and a honeymoon in Washington, D.C., and the Great Smoky Mountains; and

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WHEREAS, Through the years, Mr. and Mrs. King have been richly blessed with a cherished family that includes six children and their spouses, Karen and Allan Jensen, Kathy and David Wolfgang, Jim King, Michelle and Jerry Foy, David and Anne Marie King, and Colleen and Tom Kimbriel, 15 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. King has been a devoted homemaker throughout

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- 1 her marriage, as well as being employed outside the home; since her
- 2 retirement, she has become a valued community volunteer, including
- 3 giving of her time to the Valley Baptist Medical Center in
- 4 Harlingen; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Following his military service, Mr. King took
- 6 advantage of his G.I. Bill benefits to study accounting and
- 7 economics at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Missouri; today, he
- 8 is semi-retired with Houston-based E-Tel, as an electrical
- 9 manufacturer's representative; and
- 10 WHEREAS, In addition to Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, the
- 11 Kings have lived in Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota during their
- 12 marriage, and they have admired our nation's natural beauty by
- 13 visiting some of its impressive national parks; and
- WHEREAS, For half a century, Mr. and Mrs. King, strengthened
- 15 by their abiding faith and mutual love for each other, have shared
- 16 the joys and challenges of marriage and parenthood, and it is a
- distinct pleasure to honor them at this time; now, therefore, be it
- 18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
- 19 Legislature hereby offer warm congratulations to Jim and Mary King
- 20 and extend to them sincere best wishes for continued happiness;
- 21 and, be it further
- 22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 23 prepared for Mr. and Mrs. King as an expression of high regard by
- 24 the Texas House of Representatives.

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Speaker of the House

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I certify that H.R. No. 1185 was adopted by the House on April 20, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House