

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 1835

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Charles B. Runnels, a great Texan, has
2 distinguished himself in the fields of higher education and
3 business; and

4 WHEREAS, He was born near Nacogdoches, Texas, and received
5 his bachelor of science degree from Stephen F. Austin University
6 where he was named the Alumnus of the Year by that splendid
7 institution; and

8 WHEREAS, He completed a law degree at the University of
9 Houston in 1956 after serving four years as a pilot in the United
10 States Navy; and

11 WHEREAS, He was a successful businessman as an official with
12 Tenneco, Inc. in Houston, Texas, before he joined the
13 administration of Pepperdine University in 1967; and

14 WHEREAS, He was named Chancellor of Pepperdine University on
15 January 1, 1985, after serving as Vice-Chancellor from 1971 until
16 that time; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Runnels established the Youth Citizenship
18 Seminar in 1977 whereby approximately 250 high school junior
19 students from throughout California participate in a program on the
20 Pepperdine University campus to interact with leaders such as
21 George Foreman, Art Linkletter, Tommy Lasorda, Tom Selleck, leading
22 public officials, and various citizen heroes to discuss good
23 citizenship, free enterprise, freedom, and faith; and

24 WHEREAS, He coordinated the \$100-million Wave of Excellence

1 campaign for the School of Law at the University and then
2 successfully led a \$300-million campaign for Pepperdine
3 thereafter; and

4 WHEREAS, He is a member of the Pepperdine University Board of
5 Regents and maintains a very dedicated life of service in numerous
6 professional and civic organizations; and

7 WHEREAS, He and his lovely wife, Amy Jo, have three grown
8 children, Duke, Tyler, and Susan, and six grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, The Raleigh Runnels Memorial Swim Pool at Pepperdine
10 University is named after a fourth child who died prior to his entry
11 into Seaver College at Pepperdine; and

12 WHEREAS, He has been recognized a leader in the Church of
13 Christ and served as a church elder; and

14 WHEREAS, This unique gentleman has worked with kings and
15 queens but has always kept the common touch, a love for students,
16 and a servant heart for those who need to be uplifted; now,
17 therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th
19 Texas Legislature pay tribute to accomplishments to a true Texan,
20 Dr. Charles Runnels, in his work in Texas and at Pepperdine
21 University in Malibu, California; and, be it further

22 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
23 prepared for Dr. Runnels and his family as an expression of high
24 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.