

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 226

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Philip A. Berkebile, who retired from his position as executive vice president of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association at the end of 2004, bringing to a close an exceptional career in the newspaper industry that spanned more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his 20-year tenure with the association, Mr. Berkebile made significant contributions to the organization; under his leadership, there was an improvement and expansion of the association's service to Texas daily newspapers in all areas of operation, the implementation of an array of programs that resulted in voluntary newsprint recycling, the use of online reporting training, and the continued enhancement of journalism education in the state; in addition, the association remained instrumental in upholding freedom of information by supporting the preservation of the state's open meetings and open records laws; and

WHEREAS, The son of a former Kansas daily newspaper publisher, Mr. Berkebile began his professional career in 1960 at the *Abilene Reflector-Chronicle*, where he worked as a reporter and photographer; in 1967, he became the manager of the Dodge City, Kansas, Chamber of Commerce, and two years later, he began his tenure as executive vice president of the chamber of commerce in Hastings, Nebraska; before joining the Texas Daily Newspaper Association in 1985, Mr. Berkebile served for 11 years as general manager of the Nebraska Press Association in Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Mr. Berkebile was active in a host of organizations and efforts, both civic and professional, including the National Newspaper Association, the Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi, the Hitchcock Foundation, Kiwanis International, the United Fund campaign, the Sabin Oral Vaccine campaign, and the United States Savings Bond campaign; moreover, he demonstrated his dedication to the future of the news industry through his involvement with the University of Nebraska School of Journalism and the Texas Tech University School of Mass Communications, where he is a founding member of the board of directors; and

WHEREAS, Phil Berkebile set high standards of excellence and professionalism to which all may aspire; although his leadership will be sincerely missed, he leaves behind an important legacy of service and achievement, benefiting not only the state's daily newspapers but ultimately all the people of Texas who read them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby congratulate Philip A. Berkebile on his retirement as executive vice president of the Texas Daily

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Newspaper Association and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. Berkebile as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Wentworth

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 23, 2005.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate