

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 681

In Memory  
of  
Dr. Tex Leo Kassen

**WHEREAS**, The Texas Senate joins Texans across the state in mourning the loss of longtime athletic director, coach, and football official Dr. Tex Leo "Doc" Kassen, who died February 20, 2005, at the age of 90; and

**WHEREAS**, A native of Brooklyn, Tex Kassen was named by his parents in honor of Texas, which was where they were planning to move; he was raised in Bryan and served in the United States Navy during World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, An Oklahoma University graduate, Dr. Kassen earned a doctorate in education and athletic administration from the University of Houston; he taught mathematics, coached football, and directed athletics in high schools for 25 years before joining the Southwestern University faculty in 1969; he served as the university's athletic director from 1971 to 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, He was instrumental in developing a women's athletics program at the university, and under his leadership, the university's athletic teams achieved state and national rankings in the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics; and

**WHEREAS**, Doc Kassen was a longtime member of the National Association for Intercollegiate Athletics District IV executive committee and was inducted into the association's Hall of Fame in 1989 at the age of 75; at the time of his induction, he was the oldest active football official in Texas and was still serving Southwestern University on a part-time basis as aquatics director and assistant director of the intramural program; and

**WHEREAS**, The Austin Chapter of the Southwest Football Officials Association Hall of Fame gave him its Shorty Alderson Award in 1987 for outstanding service, and he was inducted into the Southwest Football Officials Association Hall of Fame in 1994; Dr. Tex was active in officiating for over 65 years and retired from running the clock at Dragon Stadium at the end of the 2002 high school football season; and

**WHEREAS**, Throughout his life, he actively supported many community, recreational, and educational programs and received numerous awards for his contributions and his service to the community; he was a 55-year volunteer with the American Red Cross and a lifetime member of its board of directors, and in 1988, he was inducted into the Austin Chapter's Aquatics Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS**, Tex "Doc" Kassen was a beloved and distinguished gentleman who was renowned for his kind and gentle manner and his everlasting optimism; his selflessness, his dedication to service, and his commitment to excellence were inspirational to all who knew him; and

**WHEREAS**, Tex Kassen lived his life to the fullest and was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by his family and the many whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Dr. Tex Leo Kassen: his wife of 55 years, Helen McFadden Kassen; his daughter and son-in-law, Margaret Ann and Craig McBurnett; and his granddaughter, Alena; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Dr. Tex Kassen.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 25, 2005, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate