

By: Hamilton

H.R. No. 273

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Gerald R. Ehrman of Orange is beginning a new  
2 chapter of his life with his retirement from DuPont after 42 years  
3 of distinguished service to the company; and

4           WHEREAS, After receiving his bachelor's degree in mechanical  
5 engineering from the University of Notre Dame and his master's  
6 degree in business administration from the University of  
7 Pittsburgh, Jerry Ehrman began his career with DuPont at the  
8 Washington Works site in Parkersburg, West Virginia, in 1964; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrman ably served in a variety of engineering  
10 and management positions and became plant manager at DuPont  
11 facilities in Corpus Christi, Niagara Falls, and Memphis; his  
12 ascent through a succession of important positions culminated in  
13 his appointment as plant manager for the Sabine River Works in  
14 Orange, where from October 1994 to November 2006 he was responsible  
15 for the 1,500-acre resins manufacturing facility, which employs  
16 1,600 people; and

17           WHEREAS, When Hurricane Rita forced the facility to shut down  
18 in September 2005 for the first time in its 59-year history, Mr.  
19 Ehrman led the effort to repair the storm's destruction and restore  
20 the plant to operation; despite damage to his own home, he worked to  
21 ensure that food and shelter were moved into the area for repair  
22 crews and assisted in the provision of trailers for company  
23 employees whose houses were uninhabitable; and

24           WHEREAS, In addition to providing steady leadership on the

1 job, Mr. Ehrman has generously contributed to his profession  
2 through his membership in the Southeast Texas Plant Managers'  
3 Forum, the Chemical Row Manager's Group, and the External Advisory  
4 Committee of the Department of Chemical Engineering at The  
5 University of Texas at Austin; and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout his career, Jerry Ehrman has always put  
7 the safety of his coworkers ahead of every other consideration; a  
8 longtime member of the Texas Chemical Council, he has been chair of  
9 its Occupational Safety Committee since 1998; in 2006, he was  
10 awarded the council's first Safety Leadership Award, and the  
11 committee that oversees this commendation was so impressed by his  
12 record of service that they renamed the award in his honor; it will  
13 henceforth be known as the Texas Chemical Council Gerald R. Ehrman  
14 Award for Safety Leadership; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrman is prominent and active in his community,  
16 serving on the board of directors for the United Way of Orange  
17 County, the St. Mary's Catholic School Foundation, the Lutcher  
18 Theater, and the Orange Hospital Foundation; in 1998, he was voted  
19 Citizen of the Year by the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce;  
20 devotion to family is also a key part of his life, and Mr. Ehrman  
21 enjoys the love and support of his wife, Nancy, and their six  
22 children and 12 grandchildren; and

23 WHEREAS, For more than 40 years, Gerald R. Ehrman has been an  
24 influential figure in the chemical industry, exhibiting exemplary  
25 dedication to his profession and to the well-being of his  
26 coworkers, and he may take justifiable pride in the legacy of  
27 achievement that he has created; now, therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
2   Legislature hereby congratulate Gerald R. Ehrman on his retirement  
3   from DuPont and extend to him best wishes for the future; and, be it  
4   further

5           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
6   prepared for Mr. Ehrman as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
7   House of Representatives.

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1 Congratulating Gerald R. Ehrman of Orange on the occasion of his  
2 retirement.