

By: Deshotel

H.R. No. 410

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The year 2007 marks the 50th anniversary of the
2 designation of the Mary and John Gray Library at Lamar University in
3 Beaumont as a federal government document depository; and

4 WHEREAS, On February 7, 1957, the Government Printing Office
5 notified Julia Plummer, the librarian for what was then Lamar State
6 College of Technology, that the library had been accepted as an
7 official depository for government publications, as had been
8 requested by Congressman Jack Brooks; and

9 WHEREAS, So began the library's participation in the Federal
10 Depository Library Program, and for a half-century, it has played a
11 vital role in the effort to collect, organize, and preserve
12 information produced by the federal government and to assist the
13 public in locating and using that material; and

14 WHEREAS, The Mary and John Gray Library now contains 64
15 percent of the documents available from the federal government and
16 provides free, unrestricted access to this information for the
17 citizens of the area and to the students and faculty of Lamar
18 University; the collection is housed at the library building on the
19 Lamar campus in Beaumont, and the staff is working to improve access
20 by offering more of the material in electronic format; and

21 WHEREAS, An informed citizenry is essential to the health of
22 the nation's democratic form of government, and the ready
23 availability of federal documents is key to that process; for five
24 decades, staff members of the Mary and John Gray Library have helped

1 safeguard the public's right to know, and their enduring efforts to
2 provide valuable information to the citizens of Texas is deserving
3 of high praise; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
5 Legislature hereby honor the Mary and John Gray Library at Lamar
6 University on the 50th anniversary of its designation as a federal
7 government document depository and extend best wishes to the
8 library staff members for continued success in their important
9 work; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
11 prepared for the library as an expression of high regard by the
12 Texas House of Representatives.