

By: McClendon

H.R. No. 495

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of S. L. Deckard, Sr., on September 14,
2 2005, at the age of 83, brought a great loss to the family and many
3 friends of this lifelong Texan and longtime San Antonio resident;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Palestine on February 22, 1922, "Lee"
6 Deckard, along with his beloved wife, Doris, and their infant son,
7 Stan, moved to San Antonio in the early 1940s; the couple were later
8 blessed with a daughter, Cassandra, and their 64-year union was an
9 inspiration to family and friends alike; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Deckard attended St. Philip's College and earned
11 an associate's degree in business administration while working in
12 the hotel industry, and he went on to open Swing Inns Ice House in
13 the 1950s; the Deckard family also started a number of other
14 businesses, including two liquor stores, a hamburger stand, a bail
15 bond office, a thrift store, and a car lot; Mr. Deckard retired in
16 2000; and

17 WHEREAS, An active neighborhood and community leader, Mr.
18 Deckard became involved in local and state politics and civil
19 rights issues early in his life, and his participation spanned some
20 40 years, culminating with his service on the national board of the
21 NAACP; in addition to his service with the NAACP, he was a member of
22 the Good Government League and was active at the local and state
23 levels of the Democratic Party; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Deckard was one of the first African Americans

1 appointed to the San Antonio board of the National Conference of
2 Christians and Jews, now the National Conference of Community and
3 Justice; he also encouraged other civic-minded individuals to
4 pursue public service and seek elected office, and his efforts in
5 that regard have had a lasting impact; and

6 WHEREAS, Lee Deckard was a man of compassion and integrity,
7 and although he is deeply missed, his spirit remains strong in the
8 hearts of those whose lives he touched during his time on this
9 earth; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of S. L. Deckard, Sr.,
12 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
13 wife, Doris F. Deckard; to his son, Stan L. Deckard II; to his
14 daughter and son-in-law, Cassandra and Bruce Allen; to his
15 grandchildren and surrogate grandchildren; to his many cousins,
16 nephews, and nieces who are spread across the country, from Mobile,
17 Alabama, to Oakland, California; and to the many, many friends of
18 this beloved gentleman; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Lee
22 Deckard.