

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 775

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Lawrence Cornelius, who has been instrumental in the  
2 growth of Jim Wells County and the city of Alice, has been named the  
3 2006 Newsmaker of the Year by the *Alice Echo-News Journal*; and

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Cornelius was the Precinct 2 commissioner of Jim  
5 Wells County from November 2000 through 2006; he has also been a  
6 representative of the Alice/Jim Wells County Economic Development  
7 Corporation and has worked tirelessly to attract new businesses to  
8 Alice, including a Wal-Mart, the Weatherford oil field service  
9 company, and a new biotechnology research facility; these  
10 enterprises have generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in new  
11 tax revenue for the community and created jobs for area residents;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Born and raised in Agua Dulce, Mr. Cornelius  
14 graduated from Agua Dulce High School in 1948; after serving with  
15 the U.S. Army 5th Engineering Battalion from 1952 to 1955, he became  
16 a resident of Alice in 1962; he spent 50 years with the B. G.  
17 Cornelius Construction Company and served as the president of its  
18 board of directors before his retirement; and

19           WHEREAS, A former regent of the board of Texas Lutheran  
20 University, Mr. Cornelius has helped direct many other businesses  
21 and community organizations; for three decades, he was a member of  
22 the board of directors of Alice National Bank, and he helped oversee  
23 the operations of Christus Spohn Hospital and is a member of the  
24 Coastal Bend Community Foundation board of directors and the Wells

1 Fargo Regional Board; and

2 WHEREAS, He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Texas  
3 Lutheran University for his efforts to enhance the college's  
4 facilities and boost enrollment; he also received the honor of  
5 being named Citizen of the Year by the Alice Chamber of Commerce in  
6 March 2006; and

7 WHEREAS, A respected and trusted civic leader, Lawrence  
8 Cornelius has played a key role in facilitating a range of important  
9 business and public projects in the Alice area, and his hard work  
10 and innovative ideas have been invaluable to his community; now,  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
13 Legislature hereby congratulate Lawrence Cornelius for being named  
14 the 2006 Newsmaker of the Year by the *Alice Echo-News Journal* and  
15 extend to him best wishes for continued success and happiness; and,  
16 be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
18 prepared for Mr. Cornelius as an expression of high regard by the  
19 Texas House of Representatives.