

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 777

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Donald L. Evans of Midland is being inducted into
2 the Petroleum Hall of Fame on April 26, 2007, and this honor is a
3 fitting tribute to this accomplished energy-services executive;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The Petroleum Hall of Fame, which is based at the
6 Petroleum Museum in Midland, recognizes individuals who have made
7 outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum
8 industry or who have inspired others through their achievements,
9 service, or strength of character; and

10 WHEREAS, A native of Houston, Donald Evans earned a
11 bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a master's degree
12 in business administration from The University of Texas; he moved
13 to Midland in 1975 to take a job with the energy company Tom Brown,
14 Inc., and started his career there as a roughneck on oil rigs;
15 within four years, he was the company's president; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans was faced with a significant challenge
17 during the economic downturn of the 1980s, but his hard work and
18 innovative thinking brought about a successful restructuring of the
19 company; under his guidance, Tom Brown, Inc., expanded its
20 interests in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah, where it focused on
21 natural gas production; in 1989 Mr. Evans became chief executive
22 officer, and he continued to lead the company until the early 2000s;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Equally proficient in electoral politics and public

1 service, Mr. Evans helped lead George W. Bush's gubernatorial
2 campaigns and chaired his first presidential campaign; President
3 Bush named him as the U.S. secretary of commerce in 2000, and he
4 remained in that post until 2004, when he returned to private
5 business in Midland; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans is a member of many industry associations,
7 including the Independent Petroleum Association of America, the
8 Permian Basin Petroleum Association, and the Rocky Mountain Oil and
9 Gas Association; his community service activities include
10 volunteer work for the United Way of Midland, where he was campaign
11 chair and president, and he was a member of the board of regents for
12 The University of Texas System from 1995 to 2001 and served as its
13 chair beginning in 1997; and

14 WHEREAS, Through his inspired leadership, Donald Evans has
15 distinguished himself as a successful and influential figure in the
16 petroleum industry, and he is indeed deserving of this prestigious
17 honor; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
19 Legislature hereby congratulate Donald L. Evans on his induction
20 into the Petroleum Hall of Fame and commend him for his
21 contributions to the oil and gas business that is such a vital part
22 of the Texas economy; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Mr. Evans as an expression of high regard by the Texas
25 House of Representatives.