

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 780

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The distinguished career of a respected oilman is
2 being honored as Robert L. Parker of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is inducted
3 into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on April 26, 2007; and

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

9 WHEREAS, Born in Tulsa in 1923, Robert L. Parker is a
10 second-generation oil entrepreneur who received his first lessons
11 in the business from his father, Gifford C. Parker, the founder of
12 Parker Drilling; educated at The University of Texas, where he
13 earned a degree in petroleum engineering, Robert Parker served his
14 country in World War II and then returned home to join his father's
15 company; he learned the enterprise thoroughly by working as a
16 roustabout, driller, tool pusher, and safety director before being
17 named vice president and manager of operations in 1951; three years
18 later, he purchased the company; and

19 WHEREAS, Under his direction, Parker Drilling expanded its
20 international operations and became the first western company to
21 attain work contracts in China and the Soviet Union; Mr. Parker's
22 business also specialized in deep drilling, setting the record for
23 sinking the world's deepest well in the 1960s; in addition, the
24 company pioneered the use of helicopter-transportable rigs and has

1 been a leader in establishing wells in arctic environments and in
2 environmentally sensitive areas; Mr. Parker's reputation as a
3 technological leader was enhanced with the establishment of
4 Partech, a research and development, manufacturing, and service
5 center in North Texas, which was the home of the acclaimed Well
6 Control School; and

7 WHEREAS, A member of many professional organizations,
8 including the International Association of Drilling Contractors
9 and the American Petroleum Institute, Mr. Parker has been
10 recognized with prestigious awards such as the API Gold Medal and
11 the Distinguished Service Medal from the U.S. secretary of energy;
12 these commendations signify his immense stature in the industry,
13 and his significant accomplishments continue to have a lasting
14 impact on the practice of petroleum production; now, therefore, be
15 it

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

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