

By: Brown of Kaufman

H.R. No. 1258

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Edward Harrell and Billie Jean Harden renewed their
2 wedding vows on January 21, 2007, after 60 years of devotion to one
3 another; and

4 WHEREAS, The couple grew up together in the small community
5 of Frog, and began corresponding with one another after Mr. Harden
6 left to serve in World War II; during his time in uniform, he was one
7 of the brave soldiers who took part in the Battle of Iwo Jima; and

8 WHEREAS, Married on January 22, 1947, the couple set up
9 housekeeping in Frog; their union was blessed with the birth of five
10 children: Harrell, Kirby, Kathy, Steve, and Vickie; with the
11 passing years, they have also welcomed many grandchildren and
12 great-grandchildren into the family; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Harden was a resourceful entrepreneur, using his
14 truck to deliver ice and later to transport workers to the area farm
15 fields; he was also employed by the local electric company for a
16 period, but he preferred being his own boss and so started Harden &
17 Sons Landscaping Service with a partner; and

18 WHEREAS, As a homemaker, Mrs. Harden emphasized education for
19 her daughters and made sure her sons knew how to cook and clean; she
20 grew her own vegetables and was well known for baking desserts as
21 well as hosting neighborhood gatherings at the Harden home; and

22 WHEREAS, Deeply religious people, Mr. and Mrs. Harden were
23 both active members of the congregation at the Elmo Church of God in
24 Christ; Mr. Harden was a Sunday school superintendent and Youth

1 Action coordinator, and Mrs. Harden served as a teacher of a junior
2 children's class and coproducer of the church's much-loved Easter
3 plays; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Harden recently began his own place of worship,
5 the House of Prayer Church in Wills Point; he serves as pastor with
6 the continuing support of Mrs. Harden, and they both minister in
7 nursing homes weekly, as they have done for three decades; and

8 WHEREAS, One of the highlights of the Hardens' life together
9 was their trip to the Middle East, where they had the pleasure of
10 visiting some of the sites mentioned in the Bible, and they brought
11 back many souvenirs and cherished books from their journey; and

12 WHEREAS, This devoted couple have nurtured a strong bond of
13 love, faith, and mutual respect for six decades, and it is an honor
14 to join with them in celebrating the richness of their life
15 together; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That Edward and Billie Harden be congratulated on
17 60 rewarding years of marriage and that they be extended best wishes
18 for continued happiness together.