

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 1491

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Longtime Texas newspaper editor, publisher, and
2 columnist William Everett Dozier, Jr., of Kerrville passed away
3 February 12, 2007, leaving behind a legacy of notable
4 accomplishments; and

5 WHEREAS, Born on June 12, 1922, in Delhi, Louisiana, William
6 Dozier embarked on his lifelong career in journalism at the age of
7 13, working as an apprentice to the printer and as a sports reporter
8 at a local newspaper; just two years later, he became the paper's
9 editor and the youngest person in the state's history to ever hold
10 such a position; he went on to pursue a degree in journalism and
11 graduated cum laude from Louisiana Tech University in 1943; and

12 WHEREAS, During World War II, Mr. Dozier was a communications
13 officer in the U.S. Navy and served in the Pacific on the USS
14 *Murray*; he later saw duty during the Korean War and was a commander
15 in the Navy Reserve; his tours of duty sparked an interest in
16 preserving the history of World War II, and he worked with the
17 Admiral Nimitz Foundation for more than 25 years, including a
18 period as its director; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1952, he became the editor of the *Tyler*
20 *Courier-Times* and *Morning Telegraph*; he continued to guide these
21 East Texas papers until 1965, when he and his wife, Eleanor Dozier,
22 and other investors purchased the *Kerrville Daily Times*; he served
23 as editor and publisher until the newspaper was sold in 1988 and
24 continued to write his column "The Hilltopper" in the years that

1 followed; Mr. and Mrs. Dozier also founded Frio-Nueces Publications
2 and Hills O' Texas Publications, which published weekly newspapers
3 in a variety of Texas towns between 1976 and 1999; and

4 WHEREAS, Respected both within the State of Texas and
5 nationally, Mr. Dozier participated in numerous professional
6 organizations, including the Texas Press Foundation, the Texas AP
7 Managing Editors Association, the American Society of Newspaper
8 Editors, and the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association; in
9 addition, he received accolades for his contributions as a
10 publisher and writer, including the George Washington Honor Medal
11 for Editorial Writing in 1963 and the 1986 Texas Daily Newspaper
12 Association Pat Taggart Award for Texas Newspaper Leader of the
13 Year; in 1991, his alma mater, Louisiana Tech, honored him with its
14 Tower Medallion Award for Service and in 1994 named him one of the
15 100 distinguished graduates of the university's first century; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Dozier played a strong role in supporting many
17 community organizations over the years, including the Sid Peterson
18 Memorial Hospital, the Texas State Arts & Crafts Fair, and the Tyler
19 YMCA; moreover, he was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Tyler and the
20 Riverside Nature Center, a founding director of the Kerrville
21 Performing Arts Society, and a former trustee and board member of
22 the Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler and the Kerrville First
23 United Methodist Church; and

24 WHEREAS, A publisher and journalist of great skill and
25 insight, William Dozier had a large and positive influence on the
26 communities in which he worked, and his achievements stand as an
27 inspiring example of professional excellence; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
2 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of William Everett
3 Dozier, Jr., and extend sincere condolences to the members of his
4 family: to his wife, Eleanor Dozier; to his daughter, Rebecca
5 Dozier and her husband, Angelo Di Berardino; to his grandchildren,
6 Matthew, Carrie, and James Hunnicutt; to his sister, Sue Shoemaker;
7 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

8 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of William
11 Dozier.