

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 1792

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Proud members of the Class of 1957 of Texas Tech  
2 University are meeting in Lubbock to celebrate their 50th reunion  
3 from May 9 to 11, 2007; and

4           WHEREAS, When these students began their higher education in  
5 1953 at what was then known as Texas Technological College, the  
6 Class of 1957 was the 24th freshman class to enroll at the school,  
7 and they were fortunate to attend the college during a lively period  
8 of rapid growth; and

9           WHEREAS, That first year, the school's enrollment was less  
10 than 5,000, and it quickly grew to more than 8,000 students by the  
11 group's senior year; the ratio of men to women was four to one, and  
12 1,400 of the students were veterans attending college on the G.I.  
13 Bill; and

14           WHEREAS, Covering over 2,000 acres, the campus of Texas Tech  
15 was considered to be one of the largest in the nation; the school's  
16 eight dormitories housed some 2,700 students, who were required to  
17 live on campus unless they were married or commuting; and

18           WHEREAS, The incoming class of 1953 was the first to be  
19 required to pay a dollar to park on campus, with 1,500 cars  
20 registered for its 700 paved parking spaces; by senior year, the fee  
21 had been raised to \$3.50, with nearly 7,000 applications for 4,000  
22 parking spaces; and

23           WHEREAS, The Class of '57 witnessed the rise of Texas Tech  
24 football to national prominence; in January 1954, Texas Tech beat

1 Auburn University 35 to 14 at the Gator Bowl, the school's first  
2 major bowl game; that game was also noteworthy for the first  
3 appearance of the Red Raider mascot, which initiated a new  
4 tradition; and

5 WHEREAS, Red Raider fans will likewise never forget their  
6 football team's landmark defeat of The University of Texas  
7 Longhorns in Austin in 1955, during the first game ever played under  
8 lights in Memorial Stadium; with 10,000 Red Raider fans in  
9 attendance among the crowd of 40,000, Tech scored an unforgettable  
10 victory over UT, marking the first time the Longhorns had lost a  
11 home game since 1893; and

12 WHEREAS, Due in part to that 1955 victory in Austin, Texas  
13 Tech became part of the Southwest Athletic Conference the following  
14 year, fulfilling a long-held dream for the school and its students;  
15 that same year the Red Raiders basketball team played its first  
16 games in the new Lubbock Municipal Coliseum; and

17 WHEREAS, In gathering to celebrate the special bond they will  
18 always share, members of the Class of '57 will renew old friendships  
19 and relive fond memories at their reunion, and the event promises to  
20 indeed be a memorable one for all concerned; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
22 Legislature hereby congratulate the Texas Tech University Class of  
23 1957 on the 50th anniversary of its graduation and extend to its  
24 members best wishes for a most enjoyable reunion.