

By: Murphy

H.R. No. 1812

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Louie Welch has significantly
2 contributed to the betterment of Houston and the Lone Star State as
3 a longtime civic and professional leader, and his remarkable
4 achievements are most deserving of commendation; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in 1918 in Lockney, Mr. Welch served as a
6 Houston councilman-at-large before being elected mayor in 1964;
7 during his time in office, Mayor Welch was instrumental in the
8 completion of several major projects, including Lake Livingston,
9 the Houston Intercontinental Airport, and the civic center complex,
10 and he initiated numerous others, including the central library,
11 the first city-owned ambulance service, Tranquility Park, and an
12 early effort to transform Buffalo Bayou; since stepping down in
13 1973, he remains the only Houston mayor to have served five
14 consecutive terms and leave office undefeated, earning him the
15 title of mayor emeritus; and

16 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has continued to distinguish
17 himself through his leadership in such noteworthy organizations as
18 the Houston Chamber of Commerce, which he served as president and
19 CEO for more than a decade, the Texas Business Development Job
20 Creation Task Force and International Committee, and the Foundation
21 for Business, Politics and Economics; moreover, he served as chair
22 of the Texas Film Commission Advisory Council and the Texas Water
23 Development Board, and he continues to serve as a trustee of Abilene
24 Christian University; the recipient of five honorary doctorates, he

1 has been further recognized with decorations from the Kingdom of
2 Belgium, the Italian Republic, and the Emperor of Japan; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Welch enjoyed more than 50 years of marriage to
4 the former Iola Faye Cure, with whom he raised five children, before
5 her passing in 1991; finding love again, he married Helen Morales,
6 and the couple have since shared some 15 years; in addition, he is
7 the proud grandfather of 15 grandchildren and four
8 great-grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, The dedication and vision of Louie Welch have made a
10 positive difference in the lives of countless citizens, and his
11 exemplary record of public service will continue to inspire others
12 for many years to come; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
14 Legislature hereby honor Louie Welch on his remarkable civic and
15 professional achievements and extend to him sincere best wishes for
16 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for Mr. Welch as an expression of high regard by the Texas
19 House of Representatives.