

By: Murphy

H.R. No. 1814

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, A businessman who has distinguished himself through  
2 his inspiring leadership and visionary ideas, Drayton McLane has  
3 built the Houston Astros into a thriving sports franchise that is  
4 bringing great benefits to the city of Houston and the State of  
5 Texas; and

6           WHEREAS, Beginning his 14th season in Major League Baseball,  
7 Mr. McLane has transformed the Astros into an organization that has  
8 enjoyed immense success, both in competition and as a business; the  
9 Astros have advanced to the postseason six times in 13 seasons,  
10 including three consecutive division titles from 1997 to 1999 and  
11 the team's first World Series appearance in 2005; and

12           WHEREAS, Drayton McLane was instrumental in the effort to  
13 build Minute Maid Park in downtown Houston, and the opening of the  
14 Astros' new home in 2000 provided a boost of energy that has helped  
15 spark additional development in the area; and

16           WHEREAS, Mr. McLane has been a member of several MLB  
17 committees, including the executive committee, the finance  
18 committee, the legislative affairs committee, the ownership and  
19 realignment committee, and the advanced media committee, and his  
20 contributions to the continued growth and popularity of the sport  
21 have earned him the respect of fellow owners; and

22           WHEREAS, Possessing expertise that extends far beyond the  
23 sports world, Mr. McLane has long been a prominent member of the  
24 Lone Star State's business community; he began his professional

1 career with the McLane Company, a grocery distribution center owned  
2 by his family; under his leadership, the McLane Company has  
3 experienced dramatic growth, becoming an international firm with 18  
4 divisions throughout the United States; today, the McLane Group  
5 encompasses an array of business enterprises, including the Houston  
6 Astros Baseball Club; and

7 WHEREAS, Active in the civic affairs of several Texas  
8 communities, Mr. McLane is involved with the Cooper Institute in  
9 Dallas, the Greater Houston Partnership, and the United Way; he  
10 serves as chairman of the board of Scott & White Hospital and sits  
11 on the board of the Bush School of Government and Public Service at  
12 Texas A&M University; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. McLane is a past chairman of his undergraduate  
14 alma mater, Baylor University, and an officer of the executive  
15 committee of the Boy Scouts of America; notably, he received the  
16 Distinguished Citizen Award and the Silver Buffalo from the Boy  
17 Scouts of America in 2004; and

18 WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous other honors and  
19 accolades, this esteemed leader holds an honorary doctorate from  
20 Michigan State University, where he attended graduate school, and  
21 has been inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and the Texas  
22 Baseball Hall of Fame; moreover, he earned the Distinguished  
23 Leadership Award from Leadership Houston in 2002 and was named  
24 Father of the Year in 2000 by the Houston Community Partners; and

25 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family and his faith, Mr. McLane  
26 enjoys the love and support of his wife, Elizabeth, and his sons,  
27 Drayton McLane III and Denton McLane; he remains an active member of

1 the First Baptist Church of Temple, where he teaches Sunday school  
2 and serves as a deacon; and

3 WHEREAS, The contributions of Drayton McLane as a businessman  
4 and community leader, as well as his decisive leadership of the  
5 Houston Astros, continue to have a lasting and positive impact on  
6 the citizens of Texas; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
8 Legislature hereby honor Drayton McLane for his many years of  
9 service to his state and for giving Astros fans something to cheer  
10 about; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
12 prepared for Mr. McLane as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
13 House of Representatives.