

By: Bohac

H.R. No. 2529

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Residents of Harris County were greatly saddened by  
2 the death of Jack Cato, county treasurer and legendary newsman, who  
3 passed away on May 21, 2006, at the age of 70; and

4           WHEREAS, Born on October 8, 1935, in Chicago, Mr. Cato  
5 graduated from the University of Missouri and the New York  
6 Institute of Finance; and

7           WHEREAS, He moved to Houston in the 1950s and soon became  
8 known for his news scoops as a police reporter and photographer for  
9 KPRC-TV, where he worked for some 25 years; cruising the streets in  
10 a red Mustang loaded with police radios, Mr. Cato often beat fire  
11 trucks to the scene of a blaze and didn't hesitate to risk injury or  
12 don a disguise to get a story; stabbed while covering the 1978 Moody  
13 Park riot, he also caught the confession of the man who murdered a  
14 serial killer via his trusty camera and car speakerphone; later at  
15 the Houston News Service, which he cofounded with a friend, Mr. Cato  
16 encouraged his reporters to go to similar lengths; his outstanding  
17 efforts were recognized with three Texas Headliner Awards and a  
18 Texas Association of Broadcasters' Steve Pieringer Award for valor  
19 and courage in the pursuit of news; and

20           WHEREAS, Mr. Cato eventually left reporting to serve as a  
21 media spokesman for the Houston Police Department and was  
22 subsequently elected Harris County treasurer in 1999; widely  
23 respected for his easygoing and friendly nature, he won the  
24 Republican primary before his death and was expected to win a third

1 term in November 2006; and

2 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, Mr. Cato shared more than 35  
3 years with his wife, the former Shirley Jean Logan, and took great  
4 pride in their two sons, Chris and John, and their seven  
5 grandchildren; and

6 WHEREAS, A larger-than-life character with a big heart and a  
7 cheerful spirit, Jack Cato left behind a legacy of passion,  
8 courage, and drive, in addition to his many professional  
9 achievements, and he will long be remembered with great admiration  
10 and affection by all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Jack Cato and extend  
13 deepest sympathy to his family: to his wife, Shirley Cato; to his  
14 sons, Chris and John Cato; to his seven grandchildren; and to his  
15 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
18 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Jack Cato.