

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Longtime Wichita Falls resident Rodd Womble is the
2 new owner of the historic First Wichita Building, one of the most
3 recognizable buildings in the city's downtown area; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Womble, who runs Womble Properties and
5 Investments, is the first individual since 1935 to own the
6 building; a 1972 graduate of Wichita Falls High School and a 1976
7 graduate of The University of Texas, this civic-minded businessman
8 is working to promote the proliferation of small business in
9 downtown Wichita Falls, and his acquisition of the First Wichita
10 Building is an important part of that plan; and

11 WHEREAS, Built in 1920 and originally named for R. M.
12 Waggoner, the building has seen much change in the ensuing years,
13 including a massive remodeling in 1959-1960, when the distinctive
14 blue porcelain and metal panels were added to its facade; that
15 facelift earned the building the nickname "Big Blue," a moniker
16 that is still actively used by downtown denizens and area
17 residents; and

18 WHEREAS, Located at the corner of Eighth and Scott Streets,
19 which was dubbed "Progress Corner" in 1960, the 12-floor First
20 Wichita Building is home to more than 40 tenants, and thanks to the
21 efforts of Mr. Womble that number is increasing at a rapid pace; and

22 WHEREAS, Civic pride and leadership are vital to the growth
23 and vitality of our state's cities, and Rodd Womble exemplifies
24 these high ideals through his visionary and inspiring efforts to

1 benefit his city and his fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
3 Legislature hereby congratulate Rodd Womble on his acquisition of
4 the First Wichita Building and commend him for his efforts to
5 promote small business in downtown Wichita Falls; and, be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for Mr. Womble as an expression of high regard by the Texas
9 House of Representatives.

Farabee

H.R. No. 2840

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2840 was adopted by the House on May 28, 2007, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House