

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 312

In Memory  
of  
Sam D. Seale

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of Sam D. Seale, longtime executive director of the Texas Association of Counties, who sadly passed away February 7, 2007, after a long and valiant struggle against cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, Sam Seale was born September 27, 1933, in Floresville, Wilson County, and grew up on his family's ranch in Jackson County; the land was originally a part of the land grants of Stephen F. Austin's first colony and had been in his family for more than 100 years; and

**WHEREAS**, He embarked on a career in law enforcement, first as a police officer in Kingsville, Kleburg County, next as a deputy in the Travis County Sheriff's Office, and then to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Seale attended Texas A&I University in Kingsville, the American College of Law in Washington, D.C., and The University of Texas School of Law in Austin before returning with his wife and children to the Jackson County family ranch; and

**WHEREAS**, He was elected Jackson County Judge in 1971 and began a new career as a leader of Texas county government; he served as president of the South Texas Judges and Commissioners Association, the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas, and the Texas Association of Regional Councils and as a board member of the National Association of Regional Councils; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1986, Mr. Seale joined the Texas Association of Counties in Austin to head its Intergovernmental Relations staff and, the next year, was promoted to executive director, a position he kept until his death; and

**WHEREAS**, Under his leadership, the Texas Association of Counties grew from six employees to 130 staff members today; the organization provides counties a wide array of services, including insurance coverage at reasonable costs, premiere education classes, legal counsel, legislative programs, and leadership training for rising county leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, Sam oversaw the expansion of services by the association without increasing the taxpayer dues paid by county governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Seale was widely respected for his love of Texas county government and the vibrancy of its constitutional checks-and-balances structure; and

**WHEREAS**, He was universally recognized as Mr. County Government among Texas' 254 counties and their 4,000-plus officials for his knowledge and leadership; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Sam D. Seale: his wife, Sylvia Aldrete Seale; his sons and daughters-in-law, Sam D. Seale IV and Sandra Seale, Michael and Cerenna McCreery, and Marc Thomas; his daughters and sons-in-law, Carrie Hearne, Lea Ann Guyton, Terry and Pat Fazio, Jean and Max Bordelon, and Laura and Jeff Hanson; his sister, Laura Ann Farley; and his 21 grandchildren and great-grandchild; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the members of his family as an expression of profound sympathy from the Texas Senate, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Sam D. Seale.

Wentworth

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 21, 2007, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate