

By: Isett

H.C.R. No. 65

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The distinguished tenure of an admired teacher and
2 scholar drew to a close with the retirement on January 9, 2009, of
3 Dr. James R. Reckner as a professor of history at Texas Tech
4 University; and

5 WHEREAS, Before beginning his career in education, Dr.
6 Reckner served in the U.S. Navy for two decades; during his years in
7 uniform, he completed two tours of combat duty in the Vietnam War,
8 earning the Bronze Star Medal and the Navy Commendation Medal, both
9 with Combat "V" designations, as well as the Meritorious Service
10 Medal, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and other honors; he
11 earned his Ph.D. from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and
12 joined the faculty at Texas Tech in 1988; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1989, Dr. Reckner founded the Vietnam Center and
14 Archive at Texas Tech, one of the largest collections outside the
15 U.S. National Archives of materials related to the Vietnam War, and
16 has guided its development in his position as director; in
17 addition, he became the founder and executive director of Texas
18 Tech's Institute for Modern Conflict, Diplomacy, and
19 Reconciliation in 2007 and has served on the Secretary of the Navy's
20 Advisory Subcommittee on Naval History since 1998; and

21 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has published several books and
22 articles on naval history, including *Teddy Roosevelt's Great White*
23 *Fleet*, for which he received the Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt
24 Annual Naval History Award, and *A Sailor's Log: Water Tender*

1 *Frederick T. Wilson, USN, on Asiatic Station, 1899-1901*; his
2 teaching and leadership abilities have been honored with numerous
3 awards, and he has also been the recipient of a number of accolades
4 that salute his prominent position in the Lubbock community; and

5 WHEREAS, James Reckner has helped inspire a deeper
6 understanding of important events in our nation's history, and he
7 may reflect with great pride on his myriad contributions to Texas
8 Tech University; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
10 hereby honor Dr. James R. Reckner on his retirement from Texas Tech
11 University and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
12 happiness; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for Dr. Reckner as an expression of high regard by the
15 Texas House of Representatives and Senate.