

By: Davis of Harris

H.C.R. No. 259

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, In the year 1929, the era of the "Roaring 20s" came
2 to a sudden end, the stock market crashed, and the country slid into
3 "The Big Depression"; and

4 WHEREAS, James Alford Davis entered this world on November
5 14, 1929, the first son of Alford Joseph Davis and Victoria Louise
6 Wilhelm Davis; he lived on "The Farm" at the Fritz Wilhelm ranch in
7 northwest Menard County until the fourth grade, when the family
8 moved to the big city and place of his birth, Menard, Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis graduated from Lutheran Concordia
10 College, located in Austin, in the year 1948; it was at Concordia
11 that he met his father figure and mentor, George John Beto, a.k.a.
12 "Walking George," who was a professor and housemaster; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1952, Mr. Davis graduated from the University of
14 Houston with a bachelor's degree in business administration and,
15 with a strong recommendation from the president of the United
16 States of America, he joined the United States Army; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis entered the Bates School of Law at the
18 University of Houston in 1956, and five years later he successfully
19 passed the bar exam and was authorized to practice law in the State
20 of Texas; also in 1956, he and Nancy Helen Hall were joined in holy
21 matrimony, and as of this date, they have enjoyed 53 years of wedded
22 bliss; as Pappy likes to say, "1956 was a busy year--got married,
23 got a job, started law school, and dropped my first kid"; and

24 WHEREAS, The union between James Alford Davis and Nancy Helen

1 Hall produced five children--William Keith Davis, in 1956, Charles
2 Melvin Davis, 1957, John Edward Davis, 1960, Victoria Joanne Davis
3 Starr, 1960, and Christopher Lee Davis, 1963; and

4 WHEREAS, In the mid-1960s, Mr. Davis moved his family to
5 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he worked on the Capline Pipeline
6 Project; the family returned to Houston in 1968, and Mr. Davis set
7 up his office downtown, at Shell Plaza Two; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1991, after 35 years of service, he retired from
9 Shell Pipeline, where he was responsible for the company's
10 substantial land-related acquisition projects; that same year, he
11 and his wife moved back to Menard, and since then he has devoted his
12 time to raising goats, sheep, cows, and grandkids at the Dry Creek
13 Ranch; and

14 WHEREAS, James Alford Davis is celebrating his 80th birthday
15 in 2009 with family and lifelong friends at the Menard Country Club
16 on the San Saba River; this self-made man has been a successful
17 husband, father, grandfather, lawyer, rancher, a voracious reader
18 of history, a mentor to many, and the author of *In the Eye of a*
19 *Hurricane and In From the Cold*, and Mr. Davis wants all to remember
20 that "It didn't just happen"; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas
22 hereby congratulate James Alford Davis on his 80th birthday and
23 recognize that, after weathering many life storms and experiencing
24 the cold on levels unknown to most men, Mr. Davis has successfully
25 emerged from the eye of the storm and has finally come in from the
26 cold; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for Mr. Davis as an expression of high regard by the Texas
2 House of Representatives and Senate.