

By: Hilderbran

H.R. No. 31

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The state of Texas lost a distinguished businessman
2 and leader with the passing of Paul Derald Meek of Fredericksburg on
3 June 15, 2007, at the age of 76; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in McAllen to Valley pioneers William Van Meek
5 and Martha Mary Sharp Meek on August 15, 1930, Paul Meek earned a
6 bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from The University of
7 Texas at Austin; he began a noteworthy career in the petrochemical
8 industry with Humble Oil and Refining Company in Baytown and went on
9 to work for Cosden Oil and Chemical Company in Big Spring; after
10 serving as president of Cosden and as a member of the board of
11 directors of its parent company, FINA, he moved to Dallas in 1976 to
12 assume the posts of chief operating officer and president of FINA;
13 he later served as its chief executive officer and chairman of the
14 board before retiring to his Hill Country ranch in 1996; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1989, Governor Bill Clements appointed Mr. Meek
16 to the Public Utility Commission, which he chaired until 1992;
17 moreover, he served as chair of the Engineering Foundation Advisory
18 Council at UT Austin, as director of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation,
19 and as a member of the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center Board of
20 Visitors, the UT Longhorn Foundation, the UT Chancellor's Council,
21 and the UT McDonald Observatory Board of Visitors; named a
22 Distinguished Engineering Graduate by his alma mater, he also
23 sought to encourage high school students to pursue careers in
24 science, engineering, and math as an advisor and benefactor of

1 IGNITE, an educational nonprofit with those aims; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Meek shared 40 years of marriage with Betty
3 Robertson Meek, and the couple were blessed with four daughters,
4 Paula, Katheryn, Carol Ann, and Linda; following the death of his
5 first wife, he was fortunate enough to find love a second time with
6 Sue Etchison Meek, and they enjoyed a rewarding nine-year union;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Through his expertise, dedication, and guidance,
9 Paul Meek contributed tremendously to the Lone Star State, and he
10 leaves behind a legacy that will continue to resonate for any years
11 to come; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Paul Derald Meek and
14 extend deepest sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
15 Sue Etchison Meek; to his daughters, Paula Burford and her husband,
16 Scott, Katheryn Hasemann and her husband, Charles, Carol Ann Miller
17 and her husband, Rusty, and Linda Meek; to his grandchildren, Mary
18 Catherine and Charlie Burford, Margaret and Andy Hasemann, Natalie,
19 Paul, and Michelle Miller, Robert and Mary Catherine Russo, and
20 Samantha and Forrest Poorman; to his stepdaughters, Tracy Russo and
21 her husband, Bobby, and Christy Garrison and her husband, Kenny;
22 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Paul Derald
26 Meek.