RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and

2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends

3 of Ben Randle, Jr., of San Antonio, who passed away on December 4,

4 2008, at the age of 83; and

5 WHEREAS, Ben Randle, Jr., was born to Ben and Carrie Randle of

6 Wichita Falls on April 25, 1925; he graduated from Peabody High

7 School in Hillsboro and joined Wade Chapel at a young age, beginning

8 what would become a lifelong association with the African Methodist

9 Episcopal Church; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Randle answered his nation's call to duty by

11 joining the U.S. Navy in September 1943, and he was decorated

12 several times for his valor in the Pacific theater; he enrolled in

13 Langston University after the war and met the former Rita Belle

14 Cotton, with whom he would enjoy more than 57 years of loving

15 marriage; Mr. Randle earned a bachelor of science degree in

16 industrial arts and lettered in band at Langston, and he furthered

17 his education with postgraduate work at Oklahoma State University

18 and the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio; and

19 WHEREAS, After leaving college, Mr. Randle taught industrial

20 arts and band in Oklahoma; a few years later, he returned to serve

21 the armed forces as a jet engine instructor for the U.S. Air Force,

22 earning his master instructor rating and going on to obtain his

23 instructor of instructors license at Chanute Air Force Base in

24 Illinois; Mr. Randle began teaching for the education department of

- H.R. No. 424
- 1 the air force in 1967 and continued in that capacity until his
- 2 retirement in 1986, having served for more than three decades and
- 3 earned multiple Civilian of the Year awards; and
- 4 WHEREAS, An expert mentor with a natural gift for imparting
- 5 life's lessons, Mr. Randle counseled troubled children and adults
- 6 throughout his life; following his retirement, he lent his talents
- 7 to the San Antonio Alliance of Business, helping facilitate
- 8 employment for at-risk individuals; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Mr. Randle was also an avid airman, belonging to the
- 10 Air Force Aerial Club and the Bronze Eagles Flying Club of Texas,
- 11 and he worked extensively with the Bronze Eagles and the
- 12 Davis-Scott YMCA to interest minority youth in the field of flying;
- 13 he loved gardening and frequently gave his vegetables to friends
- 14 and neighbors, and he was a master of the tenor saxophone who at one
- 15 time led his own jazz ensemble; and
- WHEREAS, This notable Texan was a longstanding member of the
- 17 Bronze Eagles, the Black Pilots Association, and the Sunset Hunting
- 18 and Fishing Club, and he spent five decades as a scoutmaster and
- 19 scout council member with the Boy Scouts of America; he was a member
- 20 of Bethel A.M.E. Church in San Antonio, where he worked diligently
- 21 for the scout ministry, and was a former leader of the San Antonio
- 22 chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and
- WHEREAS, Beloved by his family and friends, Ben Randle was
- 24 respected by all who knew him, and although he is deeply missed, his
- 25 spirit lives on through the many positive contributions he made in
- 26 service to others; now, therefore, be it
- 27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas

- 1 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Ben Randle, Jr., and
- 2 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
- 3 Rita Belle Cotton Randle; to his cousins; to his nieces; and to his
- 4 other relatives and friends; and, be it further
- 5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 6 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
- 7 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ben Randle,
- 8 Jr.

McClendon

Straus Gattis Menendez Allen Geren Merritt Giddings Alonzo Miklos Alvarado Gonzales Miller of Comal Anchia Gonzalez Toureilles Miller of Erath Guillen Anderson Moody Gutierrez Aycock Morrison Berman Hamilton Naishtat Hancock Oliveira Bohac Bolton Hardcastle Olivo Harless Bonnen Orr Ortiz, Jr. Branch Harper-Brown Brown of Kaufman Hartnett Otto Brown of Brazos Heflin Parker Burnam Hernandez Patrick Paxton Button Herrero Hilderbran Callegari Peña Castro Hochberg Phillips Chavez Hodge Pickett Chisum Homer Pierson Christian Pitts Hopson Howard of Fort Bend Quintanilla Cohen Coleman Howard of Travis Raymond Cook Hughes Riddle Corte Hunter Rios Ybarra Ritter Crabb Isett Rodriguez Craddick Jackson Creighton Jones Rose Keffer Sheffield Crownover Darby Kent Shelton King of Parker Smith of Tarrant Davis of Harris King of Taylor Smith of Harris Davis of Dallas King of Zavala Deshotel Smithee Driver Kleinschmidt Solomons Kolkhorst Dukes Strama Dunnam Kuempel Swinford Laubenberg Dutton Taylor Legler Thibaut Edwards Eiland Leibowitz Thompson Eissler Lewis Truitt Elkins Lucio III Turner of Tarrant England Madden Turner of Harris Vaught Farabee Maldonado Mallory Caraway Veasey Farias Farrar Marquez Villarreal Vo Fletcher Martinez Martinez Fischer Walle Flores McCall Flynn Weber Frost Woolley McClendon

Zerwas

McReynolds

Gallego

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 424 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 26, 2009.

Chief Clerk of the House