

By: Christian

H.R. No. 445

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Ed and Gwen Cole have enriched many lives through
2 their generosity and dedication to Stephen F. Austin State
3 University and the Nacogdoches community; and

4 WHEREAS, Raised in Longview, Ed Cole served his country in
5 World War II as a member of the U.S. Air Force; in 1958, he started
6 his own business in the oil industry in South Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, Gwen Cole grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana, and
8 attended business school; she was employed with Home Federal
9 Savings and Loan for 26 years; and

10 WHEREAS, The couple married on Valentine's Day in 1966; they
11 settled in Nacogdoches in 1978 and became active members of the
12 community; at First United Methodist Church, they befriended the
13 congregation's choir director, Dr. Ron Anderson, a faculty member
14 at the SFA School of Music; he encouraged their love of music, which
15 eventually led them to the university and the cultural programs it
16 offered to students and area residents; and

17 WHEREAS, Recognizing the importance of the university to the
18 greater community, Mr. and Mrs. Cole devoted time, energy, and
19 financial assistance to support and expand a variety of the
20 school's programs and facilities; Mr. Cole served as a trustee for
21 the Stephen F. Austin State University Foundation and as president
22 of the Lumberjacks Booster Club, and Mrs. Cole held the office of
23 president for the Ladyjacks Booster Club; moreover, the couple have
24 funded scholarships for music, theater, and the men's and women's

1 basketball programs, and their philanthropy is further evidenced by
2 the concert hall, the art center, the audiology and simulation
3 labs, and the endowed chair in audiology, which are all named in
4 their honor; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Cole also demonstrate their civic pride
6 by active participation in a number of community organizations; Mr.
7 Cole is a Rotarian, and Mrs. Cole is on the Timber Springs
8 Retirement Center Board and a member of the Dilettante Study Club;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Those individuals who step forward to share their
11 time and resources with others are indeed deserving of our profound
12 admiration and gratitude, and it is most appropriate to honor Mr.
13 and Mrs. Cole for their generous support of SFA; now, therefore, be
14 it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
16 Legislature hereby commend Ed and Gwen Cole for their many
17 contributions to Stephen F. Austin State University and the
18 Nacogdoches community; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Mr. and Mrs. Cole as an expression of high regard by
21 the Texas House of Representatives.