

By: Kleinschmidt

H.R. No. 469

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A landmark institution in the Fayette County
2 business community commemorates a milestone in 2009 as Koenig &
3 Strickland Funeral Home celebrates its centennial; and

4 WHEREAS, The company was founded in May 1909 by August
5 Koenig, one of the state's first licensed embalmers; in 1924, Mr.
6 Koenig formed a partnership with Louis H. Mueller, and the business
7 they operated in downtown La Grange was originally known as Koenig
8 and Mueller Funeral Directors and Embalmers; it was renamed Koenig
9 Funeral Home in 1928, when Gilbert Koenig, August Koenig's son,
10 bought Mr. Mueller's stake in the company; Gilbert Koenig went on to
11 direct the funeral home for 40 years and also won several
12 appointments and elections, serving 19 years on the La Grange City
13 Council, a two-year term as the city's mayor, and three years as
14 chair of the State Board of Morticians; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1977, Gilbert Koenig sold the business to Billy
16 Peel, who operated it as the Koenig-Peel Funeral Home; in 1997, it
17 became the Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home, and the enterprise now
18 includes three satellite offices, Jecmenek Chapel in Ellinger,
19 Knesek Chapel in Fayetteville, and Zaskoda Chapel in Industry, in
20 addition to the main location in La Grange; although a 1999 fire
21 claimed the iconic Art Deco building that once housed the La Grange
22 location, the company rebuilt on the footprint of the original
23 structure and remains a respected member of the city's business
24 community; and

1 WHEREAS, Coinciding with the firm's centennial is the
2 appointment of a new general manager, Robert J. Falcon, who draws on
3 more than two decades of experience in the funeral industry; under
4 his direction, Koenig & Strickland is beginning its second century
5 of providing dedicated service to the communities that it serves,
6 and this venerable company is indeed deserving of recognition
7 during this momentous anniversary year; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
9 Legislature hereby honor Koenig & Strickland Funeral Home on the
10 occasion of its centennial and extend to the management and staff
11 sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the company as an expression of high regard by the
14 Texas House of Representatives.