

By: Zerwas

H.R. No. 650

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends
3 of Royce Hopkins of Brookshire, who passed away on February 6, 2009,
4 at the age of 84; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Oklahoma on May 20, 1924, Royce Hopkins
6 joined the U.S. Army Air Corps at age 18 and served his country in
7 World War II; as a B-17 bomber pilot with the 8th Air Force, 306th
8 Bomb Group, 367th Bomb Squadron, he flew 26 combat missions over
9 Germany and earned numerous awards, including four Air Medals, five
10 Battle Stars, a Purple Heart, and two Presidential Commendations;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Hopkins was honorably discharged in 1947 as a
13 1st Lieutenant, and subsequently pursued his education at Texas
14 Tech University, where he was president of the International
15 Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi; after graduating with a bachelor's
16 degree in accounting, he joined the Lynn Elliott Company and EIM in
17 Houston; and

18 WHEREAS, His dedication and innovation led him to the
19 position of general manager of EIM, and during his 17-year tenure
20 with the company, he developed a unique flow valve controller that
21 was awarded a patent; in 1968, he became vice president and general
22 manager of Texas Steel and Wire, where he planned and oversaw the
23 construction of a new plant and was part of a five-member executive
24 committee that covered operations in Houston, Dallas, New Orleans,

1 and Miami; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Hopkins became a group vice president of
3 Davis-Walker Corporation when it purchased Texas Steel and Wire; he
4 played an integral role in the company's expansion into Tennessee
5 and Mississippi, and was a valued member of the executive committee
6 before his retirement in 1981; and

7 WHEREAS, Active in his community, Mr. Hopkins helped to
8 establish the Waller County Economic Development Partnership and
9 served on its board; in addition, he was a member and director of
10 the West I-10 Chamber of Commerce, member of the West I-10 Economic
11 Development Committee, and director of the Waller County Toll Road
12 Authority; he also supported the establishment of the Houston
13 Executive Airport, and his efforts helped the facility to gain FAA
14 approval; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Hopkins further shared his time with the 306th
16 Bomb Group Reunion Association, which he served as treasurer, and
17 assisted with the formation of the Thurleigh Airfield 306th
18 Bombardment Group Museum; he attended the First United Methodist
19 Church of Brookshire, where he was on the board of trustees, and, as
20 a committed Republican Party volunteer, he served as precinct chair
21 and as a member of the Waller County executive committee; and

22 WHEREAS, Royce Hopkins lived a rich and rewarding life, and
23 he will long be remembered with deep admiration for his myriad
24 contributions to his country and his community; now, therefore, be
25 it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
27 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Royce Hopkins and

1 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
2 Mollie Hopkins; to his children, Sharon Harvey and her husband,
3 Peter, Kim Montag and her husband, Jeff, Kit Hopkins, and Mike
4 Hopkins and his wife, Andrea; to his grandchildren, Chris Hopkins
5 and Jennifer Shepherd; to his sisters, Joye McLain and Lois Ann
6 King; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
9 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Royce
10 Hopkins.