

By: Branch

H.R. No. 805

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Ambassador John Bruton, Head of the Delegation of
2 the Commission of the European Community in the United States of
3 America, is visiting Texas, and this occasion provides a welcome
4 opportunity to honor the many achievements of this admired
5 political leader and statesman; and

6 WHEREAS, A native of Ireland who was educated at University
7 College Dublin, Ambassador Bruton was first elected to the Irish
8 Parliament in 1969 at age 22; over the ensuing decades, he held a
9 number of important government positions, including minister for
10 finance, minister for industry and energy, and minister for trade,
11 commerce, and tourism; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1990, he became the leader of the Fine Gael Party,
13 and when he led the party into government in 1994, he took office as
14 Ireland's prime minister; during the three years that he guided the
15 government, he helped bring about the phenomenal economic growth
16 that earned the country the nickname of "Celtic Tiger"; in
17 addition, he was instrumental in a number of other important
18 developments, including negotiations that led to the Good Friday
19 Agreement of 1998 that has eased tensions in Northern Ireland; and

20 WHEREAS, Ambassador Bruton's involvement with the European
21 Union began during his tenure as prime minister, and he later served
22 as a leading member of the convention that drafted the proposed
23 European Constitution; in 1999, he became one of the 10 vice
24 presidents of the European People's Party and continued in that

1 role until 2004, when he was appointed the head of the EU Commission
2 to the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, Since beginning his work in Washington, D.C.,
4 Ambassador Bruton has consulted with the United States president,
5 members of congress, and other senior political and business
6 figures, and his skilled diplomacy has helped foster cooperation
7 between the EU and the United States on a range of urgent issues;
8 these endeavors, as well as his many other impressive
9 accomplishments, have distinguished John Bruton as a leader of rare
10 ability, and it is an honor to welcome him to the State of Texas;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to Ambassador John Bruton, Head of
14 the Delegation of the Commission of the European Community in the
15 United States of America and extend to him sincere best wishes for a
16 productive and enjoyable visit to the Lone Star State; and, be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
19 prepared for Ambassador Bruton as an expression of high regard by
20 the Texas House of Representatives.