

By: Pitts

H.R. No. 877

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Texas House of Representatives lost a  
2 long-serving and highly respected member when the Honorable George  
3 E. "Buddy" West of Odessa passed away on June 25, 2008, at the age of  
4 71; and

5           WHEREAS, Buddy West was first elected as the District 81  
6 state representative in 1992 and spent 16 years in the house; he was  
7 a highly effective advocate for his constituents in Ector, Andrews,  
8 and Winkler Counties, and his wise leadership had an enduring and  
9 positive influence on his fellow house members; and

10           WHEREAS, Born on October 9, 1936, in Ballinger, Mr. West  
11 moved to Odessa at the age of seven and graduated from Odessa High  
12 School; he enjoyed a 30-year career with Amoco, where he worked as a  
13 safety engineer, product technologist, and plant and field  
14 technician before his retirement; he also devoted himself to  
15 furthering his education through the years, studying at Odessa  
16 College, Howard Payne University, and Hardin-Simmons University,  
17 and he graduated with a degree in business management from The  
18 University of Texas of the Permian Basin in 1975; and

19           WHEREAS, The eight terms that Representative West served in  
20 the house allowed him to provide vital input on a vast range of  
21 issues; he was particularly active in the areas of energy policy and  
22 education, chairing the House Committee on Energy Resources,  
23 contributing to committees on public education and higher  
24 education, and supporting the growth of his alma mater, UT Permian

1 Basin; this able legislator also served as vice chair of the  
2 Appropriations Committee and was a prominent member of many other  
3 committees and task forces, including the Law Enforcement and  
4 Environmental Regulation Committees and the Child Pornography Task  
5 Force; and

6 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Representative West enjoyed  
7 the love and support of his wife, Shirley, and their three children,  
8 and he relished the time he spent with his seven grandchildren and  
9 great-grandchild; moreover, he took an active role in the community  
10 life of the Odessa area, serving as a Boy Scout leader and a Little  
11 League baseball coach and attending Crescent Park Baptist Church  
12 and First Baptist Church; and

13 WHEREAS, Buddy West observed many changes in the world and at  
14 the State Capitol during his lengthy tenure as a member of this  
15 chamber, but his dedication to honorably serving his fellow  
16 citizens was unwavering, and the example he set for responsible  
17 public service will continue to inspire his former colleagues for  
18 years to come; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of the Honorable George  
21 E. West and extend deepest condolences to the members of his family:  
22 to his wife, Shirley West; to his children, Richie West, Lori  
23 Bennington and her husband, Wade, and Ami Satterwhite and her  
24 husband, Scott; to his grandchildren, Kelsee and Shelby West,  
25 Baylee Bennington, and Scotty, Lexi, Landon, and Laci Satterwhite;  
26 to his great-grandchild, Rylee West; to his brother, Joe Carter  
27 West, and his wife, Carolyn; to his sister, Yvonne Miller, and her

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1 husband, Herb; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be  
2 it further

3         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Buddy West.