

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 937

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In recognition of his stellar career as a defensive  
2 back with the Kansas City Chiefs, Angleton native Emmitt Earl Fyles  
3 Thomas was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2008; and

4           WHEREAS, This self-described "country boy from Angleton"  
5 lost his mother at the age of eight and was raised by his  
6 grandparents, Virginia Fyles and Lewis Fyles, Sr.; Mr. Fyles taught  
7 young Emmitt important values such as honor, commitment, faith,  
8 hard work, and respect for others; Mr. Thomas paid tribute to his  
9 beloved grandfather by adding "Fyles" to his name for his Hall of  
10 Fame induction; and

11           WHEREAS, After playing football at Bishop College in Dallas,  
12 Mr. Thomas joined the Chiefs as an undrafted free agent in 1966; he  
13 went on to enjoy a 13-year playing career, earning Pro Bowl  
14 recognition on five occasions and helping lead his team to two Super  
15 Bowl appearances, including a victory in Super Bowl IV; his 12  
16 interceptions in 1974 were just two shy of an NFL record, and his  
17 career total of 58 interceptions still stands as a Kansas City  
18 record; and

19           WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas is highly respected for his intellectual  
20 approach to the game of football, and he has used his extensive  
21 knowledge of the sport in a successful coaching career that has  
22 spanned 27 seasons and included positions with the St. Louis  
23 Cardinals, Washington Redskins, Philadelphia Eagles, Green Bay  
24 Packers, and Minnesota Vikings; he currently serves as the

1 assistant head coach of the Atlanta Falcons; and

2 WHEREAS, Emmitt Thomas played football with tremendous heart  
3 and integrity; his passion for the game and the lifelong lessons it  
4 teaches have enabled him to reach the pinnacle of his profession,  
5 and his admirable achievements have brought great honor to his  
6 family, to his teams, to his hometown, and to the Lone Star State;  
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
9 Legislature hereby congratulate Emmitt Earl Fyles Thomas on his  
10 induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame; and, be it further

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