

By: Phillips

H.R. No. 991

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost an accomplished educator and
2 public servant with the passing of Dr. John D. Moseley on March 11,
3 2009, at the age of 93; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Moseley distinguished himself in a range of
5 endeavors, and his talents were of direct benefit to the Texas
6 Legislature during his tenure as the first executive director of
7 the Texas Legislative Council; he went on to serve as president of
8 Austin College for 25 years, skillfully guiding its growth and
9 enhancing its reputation as a respected and influential place of
10 learning; and

11 WHEREAS, Born in Greenville in 1915, John Moseley was active
12 in the Presbyterian Youth Council in the 1930s and met his future
13 wife, Sara Bernice Honea, while a member of that organization; he
14 completed his undergraduate studies at East Texas State Teachers
15 College and earned a doctorate of law degree and a master's degree
16 in public administration from The University of Texas at Austin;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Initially pursuing a career in government service,
19 Dr. Moseley worked for the State of Texas and then for several
20 federal agencies in Texas and in Washington, D.C., including the
21 Office of Price Administration and the Bureau of the Budget in the
22 Executive Office of the President of the United States; in October
23 1950, he was asked to head up the recently formed Texas Legislative
24 Council; in that capacity, he helped lay the groundwork for the

1 vital support services that the council continues to provide to the
2 members of the legislature; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Moseley was hired as the president of Austin
4 College in 1953, and he immediately undertook a range of reforms
5 that brought more students to the Sherman campus, put the college's
6 finances on a sound footing, and doubled the number of campus
7 buildings in the course of a single decade; in academics, he
8 pioneered changes to the curriculum that promoted
9 interdisciplinary and international studies, and he oversaw the
10 establishment of the graduate-level Austin Teacher Program in the
11 latter part of his tenure; Dr. Moseley stepped down as president in
12 1978 but continued to serve as chancellor until 1981, and he
13 remained deeply involved in the college community for the rest of
14 his life; and

15 WHEREAS, This respected educator was the recipient of a long
16 list of honorary degrees and other prestigious awards, including
17 the Mirabeau B. Lamar Medal from the Association of Texas Colleges
18 and Universities and the Outstanding Service to Higher Education
19 Award from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); moreover, his
20 prominence among college administrators was reflected in the many
21 leadership roles he held in state and national educational
22 organizations, and he was likewise a central figure in a number of
23 civic groups in the Sherman area; and

24 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, John Moseley devoted himself to
25 serving others, and his exemplary work in the field of higher
26 education and as a member of state and federal government will be
27 remembered and admired long into the future; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
2 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Dr. John D. Moseley
3 and extend deepest condolences to the members of his family: to his
4 wife of 68 years, Sara Bernice Moseley; to their three children,
5 Sara Caroline Moseley, John Dean Moseley, Jr., and Alice Butler,
6 and to Rebecca Moseley Gafford and her husband, Ron; and, be it
7 further

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