

By: Legler

H.R. No. 1191

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Melvin Elton Cowart was named the 2008 Citizen of
2 the Year by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce; and

3 WHEREAS, The son of John and Jessi Jane Cowart, Mel Cowart was
4 born in Oakhurst on February 13, 1927; after graduating from
5 Oakhurst High School in 1944, he went to work at Crown Central
6 Petroleum Corporation, and he enrolled at Sam Houston State
7 University in Huntsville, earning a bachelor's degree in 1948; Mr.
8 Cowart later worked for a finance company in Pasadena before he
9 graduated from South Texas College of Law in 1952; and

10 WHEREAS, Employed by a mortgage services company, Mr. Cowart
11 met his future wife, Mary, in 1955, when she worked as his
12 secretary; the couple were joined in matrimony on November 15,
13 1957, and they welcomed a son, Steven L. Cowart, in 1963; Mr. Cowart
14 operated a private law practice, which he opened in downtown
15 Houston and moved to Pasadena in 1974, and Mrs. Cowart took time off
16 to raise their son, but then continued working alongside her
17 husband as his secretary for nearly five decades; the couple
18 nurtured a fulfilling relationship until Mrs. Cowart's passing in
19 2006; and

20 WHEREAS, Among the local organizations that have benefited
21 from the generosity of Mr. Cowart and his late wife are the Pasadena
22 Independent School District Education Foundation, the Salvation
23 Army, and the YMCA; in addition, Mr. Cowart serves on the boards of
24 the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena and the Pasadena ISD Education

1 Foundation; this esteemed Texan is also the director of Family
2 Promise of East Harris County, a member of the Advisory Council
3 Board of the Salvation Army of East Harris County, and a trustee of
4 the Texas-Oklahoma Kiwanis Foundation; and

5 WHEREAS, Dedicated to his community and his profession, Mel
6 Cowart is an inspiration to his fellow residents, and his
7 outstanding efforts were duly recognized with the Citizen of the
8 Year designation; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor Melvin Elton Cowart for his civic
11 contributions and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future;
12 and, be it further

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