

By: Kleinschmidt

H.R. No. 1689

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Since 1971, the Smithville Public Library has served
2 as a tremendous resource for the city's residents, allowing them
3 invaluable access to literature, the arts, and a wealth of
4 information on a wide range of subjects; and

5 WHEREAS, The establishment of the library was due in large
6 measure to the generosity and dedication of Clifton C. Carter and
7 his wife, Mary Jane Carter; the couple's love of Smithville, Mr.
8 Carter's hometown, inspired them to help found the library in order
9 to benefit the city's young people; and

10 WHEREAS, Clifton Crawford Carter was born in Smithville in
11 1918 and played football for Smithville High School, beginning his
12 lifelong enthusiasm for the Tiger athletic teams; he went on to play
13 at The University of Texas and also attended Schreiner University;
14 during World War II, he served his nation as a member of the armed
15 forces, seeing duty in the European Theater of Operations; and

16 WHEREAS, The former Mary Jane Garrett was born in 1919 in
17 Kerrville and now lives in Arlington, Virginia; in 1942, she
18 married Mr. Carter, and the couple raised five children, Kathleen,
19 Lyndon, Bill, Cindy, and Laurie; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Carter ran a soft drink business in Bryan for a
21 time and then became Lyndon B. Johnson's administrative assistant
22 in 1958; he went on to serve as a liaison to the Democratic National
23 Committee after LBJ became president; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Carter passed away in 1971, the same year that

1 the Smithville Public Library first opened its doors, but the
2 institution he and his wife helped establish has remained to become
3 a vital part of the community; and

4 WHEREAS, With the ever-growing importance of information to
5 our society, public libraries are more critical than ever; thanks
6 to the exceptional work of Clifton and Mary Jane Carter, Smithville
7 has an outstanding library that will continue to enrich the lives of
8 area citizens long into the future; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby honor Mary Jane Carter and pay tribute to the
11 memory of Clifton C. Carter for the essential support that the
12 couple provided in the founding of the Smithville Public Library;
13 and, be it further

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