

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The longest-serving judge in the history of Gregg
2 County, the Honorable Alvin Khoury, has retired as a senior
3 district judge, having earned the admiration and respect of his
4 colleagues and the community during his distinguished career; and

5 WHEREAS, Alvin Khoury was born in Longview on October 15,
6 1936, to Dr. Sam Khoury and Mrs. Virginia Khoury; a
7 fourth-generation Texan, he graduated from Longview High School and
8 attended Kilgore Junior College and The University of Texas at
9 Austin before going on to graduate from Southern Methodist
10 University, where he also earned his law degree; he became a member
11 of the bar in 1959 and chose to return to his hometown to practice
12 civil and criminal law with the firm of Whitehead & Weitzel until
13 1965; and

14 WHEREAS, Licensed to practice law before the U.S. District
15 Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court, the
16 gifted young attorney went on to represent clients throughout East
17 Texas as a solo practitioner and as a partner in Jones & Khoury
18 before joining the Gregg County District Attorney's Office as chief
19 felony prosecutor in 1972; during his nine-year tenure, he was
20 promoted to first assistant district attorney and successfully
21 prosecuted three capital murder cases and numerous other felonies;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Judge Khoury was elected to the bench of the 124th
24 District Court in 1980 and was reelected six times, an

1 unprecedented achievement for a local officeholder in Gregg County;
2 he gained a reputation for toughness with an absolute ban against
3 plea bargains in his court; during his 28 years on the bench, he
4 conducted more than 1,000 jury trials, including 12 capital murder
5 cases, presided over complex civil cases, and served as a visiting
6 judge; and

7 WHEREAS, A graduate of the National Judicial College in Reno,
8 Nevada, and the Texas College of Advanced Judicial Studies, Judge
9 Khoury served as local administrative judge and as chair of the
10 Gregg County Board of Judges from 1995 until 2007; moreover, he was
11 instrumental in the passage of legislation creating Gregg County
12 Court at Law No. 2, which was overwhelmingly approved by voters in
13 2001; the State Bar of Texas recognized him in June 2006 with a
14 presidential commendation and the following year he was named a
15 Longview Independent School District Distinguished Alumnus; he has
16 been an esteemed member of a number of professional organizations;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, This dedicated public servant has also worked in
19 behalf of the community as a longtime director of the Kilgore
20 Chamber of Commerce and in many civic organizations; the White Oak
21 Chamber of Commerce presented him with its President's Award; a man
22 of faith, Judge Khoury is a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic
23 Church in Longview; and

24 WHEREAS, Demonstrating impartiality in his leisure time as
25 well as on the bench, Judge Khoury is an avid fan of both the Kilgore
26 Bulldogs and the Longview Lobos; in all his endeavors, he enjoys the
27 love and support of his wife of almost 50 years, Dorothy Khoury, and

1 their two sons, Sam and Andy; and

2 WHEREAS, Judge Khoury's remarkable record will not soon be
3 surpassed, and his integrity and commitment to justice will long
4 inspire all those who have been privileged to work with him; now,
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
7 Legislature hereby commend Judge Alvin Khoury for his exceptional
8 service and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and,
9 be it further

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

Hughes
Merritt

H.R. No. 1698

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1698 was adopted by the House on May 7, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House