

By: Sheffield

H.R. No. 1715

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends were deeply saddened by the
2 passing of the Reverend Theiss L. Jones of Temple on February 25,
3 2009, at the age of 71; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Theiss Stephen and Hattie Lusby Jones,
5 Mr. Jones was born on April 10, 1937, in Abilene, and he went on to
6 graduate from Abilene High School in 1955; four years later, he
7 earned a bachelor's degree in music from Baylor University, where
8 he was a president, student conductor, and soloist for both the
9 Baylor Chapel Choir and the A Cappella Choir; and

10 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan began serving as a minister of
11 music in 1957, and he was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1970;
12 through the years, he worked with a number of churches, including
13 Gambrell Street Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Lakeside Baptist
14 Church in Dallas, and First Baptist Church in Temple, and he
15 assisted the congregations of the Central Baptist Church in Italy,
16 the First Baptist Church in Fairfield, and the First Baptist
17 Church-Woodway in Waco on a part-time basis; Reverend Jones was
18 also employed by Scanio-Harper Funeral Home, and although he
19 retired in 2002, he continued to accept short-term assignments at
20 churches in Texas, Vermont, and New Hampshire; and

21 WHEREAS, Reverend Jones conducted choral, handbell, and
22 senior adult choir leadership training clinics and led music for
23 revivals, and he directed choirs, musicals, and pageants for
24 participants of all ages; in addition, he was a member of the

1 Singing Men of Texas, the American Guild of English Handbell
2 Ringers, and the Choristers Guild, and he was involved with Baptist
3 Church music conferences; having gained membership into the Century
4 Men in 1972, Reverend Jones served as its president in 1999, and he
5 traveled across the world through the group's many international
6 mission projects; and

7 WHEREAS, A selfless volunteer, Reverend Jones served as a
8 Bible study leader at various retreats, and he organized youth and
9 adult mission projects throughout the United States and in Jamaica
10 and Mexico; Reverend Jones was also active in the Kiwanis Club and
11 on the advisory board of the Temple-Belton ACTS Television Network,
12 as well as the advisory committee to the Temple Independent School
13 District Board of Trustees; moreover, he was inducted into the
14 Walter Gilewicz Hall of Fame of the University of Mary
15 Hardin-Baylor, and in 2002, he received the institution's award for
16 distinguished musicians; and

17 WHEREAS, The Reverend Theiss Jones dedicated his life to his
18 faith, to his family, and to his community, and memories of him will
19 continue to inspire all those who were privileged to know him; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
22 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Reverend Theiss
23 L. Jones and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:
24 to his wife, Suzanne C. Jones; to his children, Samuel Theiss Jones
25 and his wife, Amy, and Sarah Richardson and her husband, Bill; to
26 his grandchildren, Zachary Theiss Jones, Stephanie Jones, and Caleb
27 Theiss, Joshua, and Daniel Richardson; and to his other relatives

1 and friends; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Theiss L.
5 Jones.