

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 1747

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Brazoria County and the State of Texas lost a  
2 beloved resident and true cowboy with the passing of Edward L. Cole  
3 of Sweeny on April 10, 2009, at the age of 78; and

4           WHEREAS, Born on May 23, 1930, in Alvin, Mr. Cole began a long  
5 and successful rodeo career at the age of 16; in 1950, he won his  
6 first bull riding title in the Southwestern Rodeo Association and  
7 was named runner-up for the all-around title; the following year,  
8 he earned both titles; and

9           WHEREAS, Mr. Cole interrupted his college studies to serve  
10 with the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict; after returning to  
11 civilian life, he continued his rodeo career and began  
12 participating in bronc riding and steer wrestling events; and

13           WHEREAS, This noteworthy Texan set records until his  
14 retirement in 1971; during the course of his two decades with the  
15 Southwestern Rodeo Association, he won 9 All-Around Cowboy titles  
16 and 23 individual titles in bull riding, steer wrestling, and bronc  
17 riding; he was also runner-up for All-Around Cowboy 11 times, and in  
18 2004, he was inducted into the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame in  
19 Belton; and

20           WHEREAS, For many years, Mr. Cole was employed as the ranch  
21 foreman of the T-Diamond Ranch in West Columbia, where he also  
22 assisted with rodeos held at the facility; he went on to establish  
23 his own ranch in Brazoria County; in addition to raising crossbred  
24 cattle and horses, he shared his time with the Brazoria County Fair

1 Association; and

2 WHEREAS, Affectionately called "Mr. Ed," Edward Cole was a  
3 Lone Star rodeo legend who embodied the cowboy spirit; although he  
4 is deeply missed, he will long be remembered with admiration and  
5 affection by those who were fortunate enough to have known him; now,  
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Edward L. Cole and  
9 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,  
10 Helen Cole; to his sons, Larry Cole and his wife, Laura, Mike Cole  
11 and his wife, Debbie, and Richard Cole; to his daughter, Linda  
12 Moody, and her husband, Karl; to his 10 grandchildren and 8  
13 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and friends; and,  
14 be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Edward L.  
18 Cole.