

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Friends and family are mourning the loss of Oscar  
2 Hardy Smith of New Braunfels, who passed away on April 14, 2009, at  
3 the age of 89; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Arkansas on April 4, 1920, Oscar Smith  
5 developed a love of sports as a youth and a lifelong devotion to the  
6 Arkansas Razorbacks; he received a football scholarship to Ouachita  
7 Baptist University, and while attending Ouachita, he married the  
8 former Virginia Hudson; the couple would go on to raise two  
9 children, Deb and Gary Bob, and welcome three grandchildren into  
10 their family; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Smith answered his nation's call to duty with  
12 enlistment in the U.S. Navy during World War II; he served on the  
13 USS *Helena*, which was torpedoed and sunk, causing him to spend four  
14 days in open water before being rescued, and the USS *Houston*, which  
15 was torpedoed but stayed afloat; after the war, Mr. Smith returned  
16 to finish his bachelor's degree at Ouachita and earned his master's  
17 degree at Texas A&M University--Commerce; and

18           WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman worked as a coach and  
19 teacher at Edcouch-Elsa High School, where he was named Coach of the  
20 Year in 1953; he subsequently served as principal at Edcouch-Elsa  
21 and remained in that post for 11 years before accepting a similar  
22 position in New Braunfels; and

23           WHEREAS, Active in civic matters, Mr. Smith was a longtime  
24 member of the Lions Club and served as president of that

1 organization in 1969 and 1970; he was also a devoted congregant of  
2 First Baptist Church of New Braunfels and a valued member of the  
3 local Masonic Lodge; and

4 WHEREAS, Fortunate enough to find love a second time after  
5 his first wife passed away, Mr. Smith married Lillian Kramer in  
6 2000; and

7 WHEREAS, Oscar Smith touched countless lives through his  
8 professional endeavors and tireless community service, and he will  
9 forever be remembered with deep affection by those who held him  
10 close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Oscar Hardy Smith and  
13 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,  
14 Lillian Kramer Smith; to his children, Deb Adams and her husband,  
15 Fred, and Gary Bob Smith and his wife, Joann; to his grandchildren,  
16 Chris Adams, Kelli Bernal, and Hudson Smith; to his sister, Velma;  
17 and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

18 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
19 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
20 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Oscar Hardy  
21 Smith.

Miller of Comal

H.R. No. 1922

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1922 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 14, 2009.

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Chief Clerk of the House