

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 2152

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Homer E. Dean, Jr., of Alice, a distinguished
2 attorney and an admired community leader, passed away on August 18,
3 2008, at the age of 89; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Kaufman to Homer E. Dean, Sr., and Ivor
5 Connell Dean on September 18, 1918, Homer Dean attended the
6 two-room schoolhouse where his mother was a teacher; he eventually
7 set his sights on a legal career and worked five jobs while earning
8 his bachelor's and law degrees at Baylor University; in November
9 1941, he married fellow Baylor graduate Barbara Roberts, and the
10 couple moved to Alice, where Mr. Dean had been offered a job with
11 the firm of Lloyd and Lloyd; and

12 WHEREAS, The newlyweds' lives soon changed course following
13 the attack on Pearl Harbor; Mr. Dean enlisted in the U.S. Army, and
14 he was assigned to military language institutes in New York City and
15 Berkeley, California; after the war ended, he and his wife returned
16 to Alice, though he continued to serve in the Army Reserves until
17 his retirement as lieutenant colonel; and

18 WHEREAS, Dedicated to the field of law, Mr. Dean was named the
19 1969 General Practitioner of the Year by the State Bar Association
20 in the first year the award was bestowed; he practiced actively for
21 more than half a century, arguing cases before the Texas Supreme
22 Court and numerous state and federal appellate courts, and
23 thoroughly enjoyed his chosen profession; along the way, he served
24 as board chair of the State Bar of Texas and mentored numerous

1 attorneys, including a grandson and a niece; and

2 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan entered public service in 1947
3 as Jim Wells County attorney and went on to work as the county's
4 election chair for the U.S. Senate campaign of Lyndon Baines
5 Johnson; he subsequently served as district attorney from 1950 to
6 1952 and cofounded the Security Federal Savings and Loan
7 Association, which made low-cost home loans to returning
8 servicemen; a visionary civic leader, he helped found the Alice
9 Water Authority in 1962 and later negotiated the city's first
10 contract for water from Lake Corpus Christi; the Homer E. Dean, Jr.,
11 Alice Water Plant was dedicated on his 80th birthday in 1998 in
12 recognition of his more than 35 years of service to the water
13 authority; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Dean further shared his time and talents with
15 the Alice Industrial Foundation, the Jim Wells County Master
16 Planning Association, the Kiwanis Club, the Masons, and the South
17 Texas Children's Home, which he served as a board member; he was a
18 faithful member of First Baptist Church, where he was a longtime
19 deacon and Sunday school teacher who was respected for his
20 extensive knowledge of the Bible; and

21 WHEREAS, Demonstrating an adventurous spirit, Mr. Dean took
22 great pleasure in traveling the world with his wife and family;
23 moreover, he was known for his love of nature and his stewardship of
24 the land; and

25 WHEREAS, Homer Dean brought to his many endeavors enthusiasm
26 and a desire to make a positive difference; although he is deeply
27 missed, he leaves behind a legacy that will long resonate in the

1 community and state he was proud to call home; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
3 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Homer E. Dean, Jr.,
4 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
5 wife of 66 years, Barbara Dean; to his daughters, Barbara Dean
6 Hendricks and her husband, Bill, Ruth Dean Brillhart and her
7 husband, Don, and Grace Elizabeth Black and her husband, John; to
8 his grandchildren, Burton Dean Brillhart and his wife, Amy, Robert
9 Martin Brillhart and his wife, Kim, Katherine Lee Steele, Jack
10 Calloway Steele, Elizabeth Shields and her husband, Brad, and
11 William Connell Black; to his great-grandchildren, Annie Mitschke
12 Brillhart, Peden Burton Brillhart, and Calloway Thompson Steele; to
13 his sister, Mettie Dean Corley; to his nieces and nephews, Dean
14 Corley Myane, Terry McClaugherty Josey, and General John Donald
15 Wesley Corley; to his cousin, Jana Barr Brown; and to his other
16 relatives and friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Homer Dean.