

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 2159

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable D. R. Uher of Bay City is being
2 recognized on May 18, 2009, by Bay City Masonic Lodge No. 865 with
3 that organization's Community Builder Award; and

4 WHEREAS, The Community Builder Award was adopted by the Grand
5 Lodge of Texas in 1991 to serve as a means by which local Masonic
6 lodges might recognize non-Masons who have distinguished
7 themselves through their service to the community; and

8 WHEREAS, "Tom" Uher is well known in Bay City for his
9 outstanding service in the Texas House of Representatives, his
10 staunch support of local community and church undertakings, and his
11 significant encouragement of Masonic projects; and

12 WHEREAS, Initially elected to the 60th Texas Legislature,
13 this esteemed Texan represented the people of Matagorda County and
14 its vicinity for some 3-1/2 decades; during that time, his
15 committee chairmanships included those of the state affairs and
16 redistricting committees and the higher education subcommittee on
17 budget and oversight; his laid-back style, disciplined work ethic,
18 and independent thinking served him well as he successfully passed
19 important legislation that impacted almost every aspect of our
20 society and that continues to benefit his district and this state;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, The longest continually serving member of the house
23 during his last 10 years in office, Mr. Uher held the post of
24 speaker pro tempore from 1993 until 2003; as an elder statesman in

1 the legislature, he reached out to new members regardless of their
2 party affiliation and offered them guidance and assistance; and

3 WHEREAS, Widely acclaimed as the embodiment of a true public
4 servant, Mr. Uher has received many statewide accolades, including
5 selection as one of the 10 best legislators by *Texas Monthly* and one
6 of the top 11 legislators by the Texas Civil Justice League; he was
7 also designated as the Outstanding House Chairman by the *Texas*
8 *Lawman*, Representative of the Year by the Texas Game Warden
9 Association, and Outstanding Legislator by the Texas Junior College
10 Association; among the many other tributes conferred on him have
11 been the Legislative Leadership Award of the Texas Chamber of
12 Commerce, the Distinguished Service Award of the Vocational
13 Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas, and the White Hat Award
14 of the Texas Farmers Union; and

15 WHEREAS, Just as Mr. Uher was always available to his
16 constituents, he has always given generously of his time and
17 talents to a host of church and community projects in the Bay City
18 area; a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church of Bay
19 City, he serves his fellow congregants as a Sunday school teacher
20 and elder; moreover, he remains deeply interested in the state's
21 educational system and sits on the board of directors of the Wharton
22 County Junior College Foundation; and

23 WHEREAS, In his professional life, Mr. Uher maintains an
24 active legal practice and serves as a member of the Prosperity
25 Bank--South Texas Board of Directors; and

26 WHEREAS, Tom Uher is the devoted husband of Ann Uher, his wife
27 of 46 years, and the proud father of three children, Robert, Christi

1 Jo, and Catherine; he delights in spending time with his grandson,
2 Christopher, and coaches his basketball squad and minor league
3 Astros baseball team; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Uher has consistently supported the work of Bay
5 City Masonic Lodge No. 865 and is especially admired by the members
6 of that lodge for his sterling character and for his immeasurable
7 contributions to Bay City and to the Lone Star State; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
10 Legislature hereby congratulate the Honorable Tom Uher on his
11 receipt of the Community Builder Award from Masonic Lodge No. 865
12 and commend him for his exceptional record of public service; and,
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for Mr. Uher as an expression of high regard by the Texas
16 House of Representatives.