

By: Veasey

H.R. No. 2191

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The death of Dallas gospel radio legend Joe Bagby on  
2 May 8, 2009, at the age of 70, has deeply saddened his loved ones and  
3 his many devoted listeners; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Dallas on June 30, 1938, Edward Joe Bagby,  
5 Sr., was the son of Obie and Emma Bagby; he graduated from Lincoln  
6 High School and attended the University of North Texas and Bishop  
7 College, serving in the Air Force ROTC during his college years;  
8 returning to Lincoln High as a teacher, he served as a source of  
9 kindness and encouragement to many young people, and in 1978 he  
10 established the Glendale Learning Center, where he retired as  
11 director of operations in March 2007; and

12           WHEREAS, This industrious Texan also worked for Sears,  
13 Roebuck and Company, Parkland Hospital, and Dallas County  
14 Commissioners Office Precinct 4; in 1988, he was elected to the  
15 first of three terms as Dallas County constable for Precinct 8, and  
16 while enforcing the law he demonstrated great compassion toward  
17 those in unfortunate circumstances; and

18           WHEREAS, For more than a half-century, Mr. Bagby hosted a  
19 morning gospel show, and although he modestly described it as his  
20 hobby, he became enormously influential on the national level  
21 through his ability to recognize talent and spot a hit record, and  
22 he met such legends as Mahalia Jackson and Sam Cooke in the course  
23 of his illustrious career; moreover, "Brother Joe" became a guiding  
24 light to countless listeners; he began and ended each program with a

1 prayer and dispensed spiritual advice and moral support along with  
2 uplifting musical selections; his delightful sense of humor helped  
3 members of the KHVN "Heaven 97" audience start their day on a joyful  
4 note, and he found ways to assist callers in need and was a mentor to  
5 others in the radio industry; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Bagby was a valued member of Cedar Crest Church  
7 of Christ, and in all his endeavors he enjoyed the love and support  
8 of his soul mate and wife of 38 years, Falaine Bagby, and of his  
9 children; and

10 WHEREAS, A gifted broadcaster with a true devotion to gospel  
11 music, Joe Bagby continued to share his wisdom and faith over the  
12 airwaves even as his health declined, and he signed off for the last  
13 time less than 24 hours before his passing; although his voice will  
14 be missed, the inspiration he provided will linger in the hearts of  
15 the many people whose lives he touched; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Edward Joe Bagby, Sr.,  
18 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his  
19 wife, Falaine Bagby; to his daughters, Dunita Harris and her  
20 husband, Preston, April Bailey and her husband, Deion, Yolanda  
21 Crosby, and Tonya Williams; to his sons, DeWayne Joubert, Keith  
22 Smith, and Joe Bagby, Jr., and his wife, Nicole; to his 25  
23 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren; to his sister, Miranda  
24 Holland, and her husband, Tommy; to his brother, Vanda Bagby, and  
25 his wife, Nancy; to his mother-in-law, Jenell London; and to his  
26 other relatives and many friends and admirers; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

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1 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
2 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Edward Joe  
3 Bagby, Sr.