

By: Gonzalez Toureilles

H.R. No. 2636

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Norman F. Porter, Sr., has contributed to our
2 knowledge of the Lone Star State and its rich heritage through his
3 authorship of *Atascosa County History through 1912*; and

4 WHEREAS, Published in 2007, *Atascosa County History* has
5 received excellent reviews for its recounting of the compelling
6 story of this South Texas county; Mr. Porter used a vast number of
7 primary sources to explore such events as the bitter fight that
8 erupted in 1910 over the relocation of the county seat, requiring
9 the dispatch of two Texas Rangers to keep the peace among quarreling
10 factions; moreover, the book's nearly 400 pages include numerous
11 previously unpublished images; and

12 WHEREAS, The son of Ruby and Wilber Porter, Norman Porter was
13 born in North Pleasanton on March 4, 1933, and grew up in Atascosa
14 County; he attended Southwest Texas State College on a football
15 scholarship and served his country in the U.S. Army for three years
16 before earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in education;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Porter began his 35-year career at Pleasanton
19 Junior High School in 1956; after coaching and teaching history, he
20 became an administrator and retired as principal of the junior
21 high; he was named Man of the Year in 1990 by the Pleasanton Chamber
22 of Commerce and was inducted into the Pleasanton High School
23 Athletic Hall of Fame; since his retirement, he has traveled to
24 antique shows in other states as a postcard dealer and has assembled

1 an extensive personal collection of cards featuring vintage
2 photographs of small South Texas towns; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2005, Mr. Porter was named Senior Citizen of the
4 Year by the chamber of commerce for his noteworthy achievements; he
5 has done extensive research on the San Antonio, Uvalde, and Gulf
6 Railroad and served as president of the Longhorn Museum Society for
7 10 years, helping to restore the SAU&G Railroad Depot and obtain a
8 Union Pacific caboose for exhibition; in addition, he is a member of
9 the Texas State Historical Association, and he has served as chair
10 of the county historical commission, president of the Pleasanton
11 Cemetery Association, and vice president of the 2006 Atascosa
12 Sesquicentennial Committee; and

13 WHEREAS, This esteemed author and historian gives
14 informative talks to civic clubs and elementary school students and
15 has been instrumental in obtaining Texas Historical Markers for
16 such sites as the graves of former Texas Rangers; in addition, he
17 has helped many visitors to Pleasanton locate the burial places of
18 their ancestors; in his myriad endeavors, he enjoys the love and
19 support of his wife, Iris Porter, and their son, Norman,
20 daughter-in-law, Amy, and four grandchildren; and

21 WHEREAS, Norman Porter has played a vital role in chronicling
22 and preserving the fascinating history of Atascosa County in his
23 comprehensive book as well as through his years of dedicated
24 service to historical organizations; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate Norman F. Porter, Sr., on the
27 publication of *Atascosa County History through 1912* and commend him

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1 for his many contributions to historical preservation and
2 education; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mr. Porter as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives.