

By: Gallego

H.R. No. 2707

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Retired U.S. Air Force Major General Gerald Prather
2 has led a full and generous life devoted to the service of others,
3 and he has been an esteemed member of the Del Rio community for more
4 than 20 years; and

5 WHEREAS, During his exceptional 32-year career in the U.S.
6 Air Force, this outstanding American rose from airman to major
7 general; he flew F-84 and F-100 fighters, served as a B-52 pilot for
8 the Strategic Air Command, and piloted C-130 cargo planes on 500
9 support missions during the Vietnam War; and

10 WHEREAS, General Prather also completed degrees in
11 electrical engineering and communications technology, and he
12 became a high-ranking communications officer for SAC, the U.S.
13 Readiness Command, and the Pentagon; he retired in 1986 at the rank
14 of major general, having earned the Distinguished Flying Cross, the
15 Bronze Star with "V" device, and the Order of the Sword, a
16 prestigious tribute from the enlisted ranks; and

17 WHEREAS, A resident of Del Rio since 1986, General Prather is
18 as dedicated to serving his community as he has been to serving his
19 nation; he held the office of Precinct 3 justice of the peace for 10
20 years and helped to create the Justice Juvenile Court; moreover, he
21 has been a member and president of the board of the United Way, as
22 well as the Eagle Scout advancement chair of the Amistad District of
23 the Boy Scouts of America; and

24 WHEREAS, General Prather has also been a leader in the Del Rio

1 Chamber of Commerce, serving as president and as a member of the
2 board, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Special Projects
3 Committee; affiliated with the Lions Club for 50 years, he has been
4 president of the Host Lions Club in Del Rio, and he is vice
5 president and a life director of the Military Affairs Association;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, A man of strong religious faith, General Prather is
8 an ordained Eucharistic minister with St. James Episcopal Church,
9 where he has also served as senior warden of the vestry and as a
10 trustee; he acts as chaplain for the Juvenile Detention Center, the
11 Val Verde Regional Medical Center, and the Host Lions Club; and

12 WHEREAS, Throughout a lifetime of military and civic service,
13 Gerald Prather has provided exemplary, inspiring leadership, and
14 his contributions and accomplishments are indeed worthy of special
15 recognition; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
17 Legislature hereby commend Major General Gerald Prather for his
18 service to this country and to the community of Del Rio and extend
19 to him sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness;
20 and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for General Prather as an expression of high regard by the
23 Texas House of Representatives.