

By: Gattis

H.R. No. 2868

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The tenure of an admired scholastic administrator  
2 drew to a close with the retirement on January 30, 2009, of Dr.  
3 William Farney as executive director of the University  
4 Interscholastic League; and

5           WHEREAS, A Texas native, Bill Farney was a four-year  
6 letterman at Chilton High School in football, basketball, and  
7 track, and graduated in 1958 as valedictorian of his class; he  
8 attended Paris Junior College and the University of Tulsa on  
9 football and academic scholarships, earning a bachelor's degree in  
10 English, and contributing to the Tulsa Golden Hurricanes' Missouri  
11 Valley Conference football championship in 1962; and

12           WHEREAS, Dr. Farney began his professional career in student  
13 athletics as an assistant coach for the basketball and wrestling  
14 teams at Will Rogers High School in Tulsa; he came back to Texas in  
15 1964 to serve as coach and principal in Lorena; he later moved to  
16 Waco to become principal of Robinson High School, founding a golf  
17 program that became 2A district champions in 1969; and

18           WHEREAS, This dedicated administrator and coach went on to  
19 serve as superintendent of the Crawford Independent School District  
20 while simultaneously coaching 22 different teams in 4 different  
21 sports; his squads captured 14 district championships, 6  
22 bi-district championships, 6 regional championships, and a state  
23 championship, and they made a total of 4 state final appearances;  
24 and

1           WHEREAS, In 1977 Bill Farney became athletic director and  
2 assistant to the director of the University Interscholastic League;  
3 he received his doctoral degree in education two years later and, in  
4 1995, was promoted to the executive director position, which he  
5 would hold until his retirement; his role as a compassionate leader  
6 and consensus builder helped the UIL to promote sportsmanship and  
7 academic accountability; he granted sanction to several new sports,  
8 expanded the playoff system, and increased the opportunities for  
9 girls to participate in athletics, among many other initiatives;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, Respected by athletes, parents, teachers, coaches,  
12 and his fellow administrators, Bill Farney has made a positive  
13 difference in the lives of Texas students over the course of several  
14 decades, and his legacy of integrity and achievement in  
15 interscholastic competition will resonate for years to come; now,  
16 therefore, be it

17           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. William Farney on the occasion  
19 of his retirement as executive director of the University  
20 Interscholastic League and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
21 continued success and happiness; and, be it further

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