

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Lone Star State lost an admired public servant
2 with the passing of the Honorable Stephen Franklin Preslar of El
3 Paso on March 2, 2009, at the age of 90; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Coleman County, Stephen Preslar was born
5 to Sanford and Cora Preslar on March 27, 1918; he graduated from
6 Ranger High School and went on to attend the University of North
7 Carolina, the University of Iowa, Carmell College, and George
8 Washington University, where he earned his J.D.; and

9 WHEREAS, Judge Preslar worked in Washington, D.C., as a
10 fingerprint specialist with the FBI and as an officer for the United
11 States Capitol Police from 1940 through 1950, and he further served
12 his country in the U.S. Navy and Naval Air Corps during World War
13 II; and

14 WHEREAS, Returning to his beloved home state, Judge Preslar
15 practiced law in McCamey for 13 years; as his legal career evolved,
16 he was elected Upton County Attorney and later District Judge for
17 the 112th Judicial District; in 1963, this esteemed Texan was
18 appointed by Governor John Connally as Associate Justice of the
19 Eighth Court of Appeals in El Paso; in 1973, he was named the 10th
20 Chief Justice of the Eighth Court of Appeals, and for a decade after
21 his retirement in 1986, he continued to work as a visiting judge;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Chief Justice Preslar was a distinguished jurist who
24 dedicated his life to the service of the people of Texas; a mentor

1 and model of public service to three generations of judges and
2 attorneys, he is also credited with developing legislation that
3 created and dedicated funding for county law libraries across the
4 state; and

5 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, Chief Justice Preslar shared
6 62 years with his wife, Avis McKelvain Preslar, who was his constant
7 and true companion, offering him encouragement and support
8 throughout their marriage; he was also the proud and loving father
9 of three sons, Stephen, Samuel, and Robert; and

10 WHEREAS, Imbued with a deep commitment to fairness and the
11 law, Judge Preslar contributed immeasurably to his community, his
12 country, and his profession, and the wide respect and admiration he
13 enjoyed testify to the profound impact of his life and legacy; now,
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
16 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Chief Justice Stephen
17 Franklin Preslar and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his
18 family: to his wife, Avis Preslar; to his son, Robert Lee Preslar;
19 to his grandchildren, Kim, Allison, Sarah, and Kelsey; to his
20 great-grandchildren, Dean and Vaughn; to his colleagues on the
21 Eighth Court of Appeals; and to his other relatives and friends;
22 and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Judge
26 Stephen Preslar.

Moody

H.R. No. 2931

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2931 was adopted by the House on June 1, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House