

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Robert Hawkins is being inducted into the AFL-CIO
2 Hall of Fame in 2009, and this occasion offers an ideal opportunity
3 to reflect on his many accomplishments; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Waco in 1939, Mr. Hawkins began doing odd
5 jobs at the age of 10 to help support his family; he joined the Army
6 National Guard at 17 and later served in the United States Army, the
7 Army Reserve, and the Texas State Guard before retiring as a colonel
8 with 25 years of military experience; he has been awarded the
9 Soldier's Medal and the Lone Star Distinguished Service Medal; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins joined the labor movement in the late
11 1950s while employed at General Tire and Rubber Company; he won
12 election as treasurer of Local 312 of the United Rubber Workers and
13 served as a delegate to the Central Texas Labor Council; shortly
14 after his election as secretary of the council, he was laid off from
15 General Tire, but he maintained his eligibility for the council by
16 finding a temporary job at Library Binding Service and getting
17 elected as a delegate from the International Brotherhood of
18 Bookbinders and Bindery Workers Union; he eventually achieved the
19 extraordinary distinction of having represented five separate
20 labor unions as a council delegate, including the International
21 Brotherhood of Plumbers and Pipefitters, the International
22 Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union, and the
23 International Union of Operating Engineers; and

24 WHEREAS, While working full-time and taking more than a full
25 course load at McLennan Community College in 1966, Mr. Hawkins was

1 also busy at the State Capitol, advocating forcefully in behalf of
2 funding for an expanded statewide system of community colleges; he
3 completed his associate's degree with honors as valedictorian of
4 his class and went on to earn his bachelor's degree from the State
5 University of New York at Albany on a National Guard scholarship;
6 later, he earned a diploma in national security management from the
7 United States National Defense University and served on the faculty
8 of the Levern E. Weber National Guard Professional Education Center
9 in Arkansas; dedicated to workforce education, he completed
10 graduate course work in economic development at Georgetown
11 University, earned a graduate diploma in industrial development
12 from Texas A&M University, and completed advanced study programs
13 through the U.S. Department of Labor and the Federal Emergency
14 Management Agency; and

15 WHEREAS, This remarkable Texan joined the faculty of Texas
16 State Technical College Waco in 1970; during his noteworthy tenure
17 of nearly three decades, he taught courses, developed curriculum in
18 vocational training programs, and served as director of
19 apprenticeship programs before retiring as vice president of
20 special programs; since 1972, he has served the state on countless
21 boards and commissions, primarily concerning workforce training
22 and economic development, and he represented Texas at two White
23 House economic conferences; appointed to the Capitol Council of
24 senior advisors by Governor Ann Richards in 1991, he has served on
25 the Rehabilitation Council of Texas and the State Independent
26 Living Council, among others, and currently serves as dean of the
27 Texas Workforce Investment Council, as chair emeritus and dean of
28 the Central Texas Economic Development District board, and as chair

1 emeritus of the Heart of Texas Economic Development District board;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community, Mr. Hawkins was
4 first appointed to the Bellmead City Council in 1988 and has served
5 as mayor four times; he serves on the current city council and
6 received the 2009 President's Award from the Bellmead Chamber of
7 Commerce; he is Past Master of Bellmead Masonic Lodge 1329 and holds
8 memberships in several Masonic bodies; moreover, he is a lifetime
9 member of AMVETS and of the Sons of the American Revolution and
10 serves as executive vice president of the 143rd Infantry Regiment
11 Association, 36th Infantry Division; a valued member of the First
12 United Methodist Church in Hubbard and a devoted father and
13 grandfather, Mr. Hawkins is supported in all his endeavors by his
14 wife, Ladean Hawkins; and

15 WHEREAS, Robert Hawkins has made a lasting difference in the
16 lives of innumerable Texans as a labor leader, an educator, and a
17 public servant, and he has earned the profound respect and
18 admiration of all who know him; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
20 Legislature hereby congratulate Robert Hawkins on his induction
21 into the AFL-CIO Hall of Fame and extend to him sincere best wishes
22 for continued success; and, be it further

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

Dunnam

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Peña
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

H.R. No. 2958

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2958 was adopted by the House on June 1, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House