

By: Hughes

H.R. No. 3064

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Aviation Division of the Texas Department of
2 Transportation presented its inaugural Aviator of the Year Award to
3 Wayne Collins of Mineola at its 2008 Aviation Conference; and

4 WHEREAS, A Mineola native, Mr. Collins was instrumental in
5 establishing a new Wood County Airport in 1983, and he has been a
6 dynamic leader in efforts to develop and improve the facility
7 through the years; he has worked diligently to secure the
8 construction of a new parallel taxiway and a new terminal building,
9 the installation of an automated weather system, and the extension
10 of the runway to 4,000 feet; moreover, he initiated the popular
11 annual airport recognition day in acknowledgment of the airport's
12 importance to the whole community; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Collins was born on August 10, 1924, and after
14 graduating from Mineola High School, he attended Rice Institute; he
15 served his country during World War II as a naval officer in the
16 Pacific theater and continued to serve in the Naval Reserve,
17 retiring as a captain; an astute businessman, he found success in
18 the retail industry, and although he later became active in
19 banking, he has remained a valued member of the Texas Retailers
20 Association, which has named him a Life Director; and

21 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to his community, Mr. Collins has
22 participated in many endeavors to foster the prosperity of Mineola
23 and Wood County; he helped to establish the Mineola Industrial
24 Foundation and played a key role in moving the Wood County

1 Industrial Commission office to the airport, thereby enhancing the
2 commission's ability to promote the area to prospective businesses;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to achieving distinction in the
5 professional and civic arenas, Mr. Collins has earned membership in
6 Earthrounders by circumventing the globe in a light aircraft, a
7 feat he achieved not once but twice; he is also a skilled musician
8 who plays trombone in the Lake Country Orchestra; and

9 WHEREAS, Wayne Collins has demonstrated outstanding
10 leadership in aviation in Wood County, and his commitment to
11 furthering the progress of his community has contributed
12 immeasurably to its economic development; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate Wayne Collins on his receipt of the
15 inaugural Aviator of the Year Award from the Aviation Division of
16 the Texas Department of Transportation and extend to him sincere
17 appreciation for his exceptional community service; and, be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Mr. Collins as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.