

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 572**

**WHEREAS,** In recognition of his stellar career as a defensive back with the Kansas City Chiefs, Angleton native Emmitt Earl Fyles Thomas was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2008; and

**WHEREAS,** This self-described "country boy from Angleton" lost his mother at the age of eight and was raised by his grandparents, Virginia Fyles and Lewis Fyles, Sr.; Mr. Fyles taught young Emmitt important values such as honor, commitment, faith, hard work, and respect for others; Mr. Thomas paid tribute to his beloved grandfather by adding "Fyles" to his name for his Hall of Fame induction; and

**WHEREAS,** After playing football at Bishop College in Dallas, Mr. Thomas joined the Chiefs as an undrafted free agent in 1966; he went on to enjoy a 13-year playing career, earning Pro Bowl recognition on five occasions and helping lead his team to two Super Bowl appearances, including a victory in Super Bowl IV; his 12 interceptions in 1974 were just two shy of a National Football League record, and his career total of 58 interceptions still stands as a Kansas City record; and

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Thomas is highly respected for his intellectual approach to the game of football, and he has used his extensive knowledge of the sport in a successful coaching career that has spanned 27 seasons and included positions with the Saint Louis Cardinals, Washington Redskins, Philadelphia Eagles, Green Bay Packers, and Minnesota Vikings; he currently serves as the assistant head coach of the Atlanta Falcons; and

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**WHEREAS**, Emmitt Thomas played football with tremendous heart and integrity; his passion for the game and the lifelong lessons it teaches have enabled him to reach the pinnacle of his profession, and his admirable achievements have brought great honor to his family, to his teams, to his hometown, and to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby congratulate Emmitt Earl Fyles Thomas on his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mr. Thomas as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 6, 2009.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate