

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1013

In Memory  
of  
Richard F. Williamson

**WHEREAS**, The citizens of Texas lost a passionate leader and dynamic trailblazer with the death of Richard F. "Ric" Williamson on December 30, 2007, at the age of 55; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Williamson was a brilliant and visionary leader whose extraordinary efforts on behalf of this state were as grand as Texas itself; a man who cared deeply about the well-being of his community and his state, he epitomized the "Spirit of Texas" with his bold ideas for the betterment of this state and his wholehearted efforts to put them into practice; and

**WHEREAS**, Born on January 25, 1952, in Abilene, Mr. Williamson attended The University of Texas in Austin, where he married a fellow Longhorn, Mary Ann Welsch, in 1973 and earned his bachelor's degree in 1974; the couple settled in Weatherford and raised three beautiful daughters, Melissa, Katherine, and Sara, and they had two grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Williamson was an avid hunter and a devoted fan of women's fast-pitch softball; he was a cofounder of RAW Energy, and he and his wife established MKS Consulting Corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Williamson began his service to the State of Texas in 1985 when he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, where he served for 14 years; and

**WHEREAS**, While serving as Vice Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. Williamson, a proponent of performance budgeting, became fondly known as one of the "Pit Bulls," conservative lawmakers who seriously questioned state spending practices; and

**WHEREAS**, Professional and legislative accomplishments earned Mr. Williamson many awards through the years; he was particularly proud of his recognition by *Texas Monthly* magazine in both 1989 and 1991 as one of Texas' "Ten Best Legislators"; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2001, Mr. Williamson was appointed to serve on the Texas Transportation Commission, and in January of 2004, he became chairman of the commission, a position he held until his death; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Williamson was a longtime close friend and trusted advisor to Governor Rick Perry, and he contributed immeasurably to the growth and progress of the state through his dedication to public service, his ambitious and farsighted planning, and his steadfast leadership; now, therefore, be it

S.R. No. 1013

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby honor the memory of Ric Williamson, a great Texan and a cherished friend to many, whose legacy will continue to shape the state's infrastructure and inspire the lives of others for years to come; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family, and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Richard F. "Ric" Williamson.

Ogden

---

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 29, 2009, by a rising vote.

---

Secretary of the Senate

---

Member, Texas Senate