

By: Woolley

H.R. No. 263

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Ramsay Gillman of Houston, a leader in the auto  
2 industry and dedicated philanthropist, passed away on June 3, 2011,  
3 at the age of 67; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Houston on February 1, 1944, Mr. Gillman was  
5 the son of Frank and Lula Gillman; he followed in the footsteps of  
6 his father, a pioneer in the car business, and began working in the  
7 parts department of his Pontiac dealership in downtown Houston;  
8 after completing studies at the General Motors Dealer Management  
9 Institute and other specialized schools, Mr. Gillman became an  
10 authorized dealer in 1967; he took the helm of the family business  
11 in 1980, and with his skillful guidance as chair, the Gillman  
12 Companies became one of the largest private retail automotive  
13 groups in the country, with more than a dozen dealerships in Texas;  
14 his success allowed him to bring a third generation into the firm,  
15 and he took great pride and satisfaction in working with his three  
16 children; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Gillman benefited this state and his industry in  
18 many ways; he served as vice chair of the Texas Motor Vehicle  
19 Commission for three years in the 1980s, and he was serving on the  
20 board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles at the time of his  
21 death; he served as a director of the National Automobile Dealers  
22 Association for a decade and was elected president in 1997; he also  
23 served as president of the Houston Automobile Dealers Association  
24 and as vice president of the Texas Automobile Dealers Association;

1 most recently, he was a trustee for the NADA Charitable Foundation  
2 and a member of the NADA Dealers Election Action Committee; and

3         WHEREAS, In 1996, the American International Automobile  
4 Dealers Association gave Mr. Gillman its Sports Illustrated  
5 All-Star Dealer Award in recognition of his contributions to the  
6 automotive business and commitment to numerous charitable  
7 organizations; the Texas Automobile Dealers Association presented  
8 him with its Automotive Legends Award for lifetime achievement in  
9 2009; generous and deeply committed to his community, Mr. Gillman  
10 supported the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Youth Scholarship  
11 Program, the Fort Bend County Women's Center, the Earning by  
12 Learning Program, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Muscular  
13 Dystrophy Association and Sickle Cell Association; and

14         WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan was a mentor to innumerable  
15 people; devoted to his family and host of friends, he particularly  
16 loved to plan adventures for his treasured grandchildren; his warm,  
17 joyous nature brightened the days of everyone he met, and his quick  
18 wit and gift for storytelling enlivened any gathering; he enjoyed  
19 spending time outdoors and was an accomplished golfer, fisherman,  
20 and hunter; and

21         WHEREAS, Although Ramsay Gillman is deeply missed, memories  
22 of his kindness, exuberance, and steadfast integrity remain to  
23 comfort and inspire those he leaves behind; now, therefore, be it

24         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
25 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
26 Ramsay Gillman and extend sincere condolences to the members of his  
27 family: to his wife of 35 years, Stevie Gillman; to his daughter,

1 Stacey Gillman Wimbish and her husband, Frank; to his sons, Jason  
2 Gillman and his wife, Brittany, and Christopher Gillman; to his  
3 grandchildren, Grace Wimbish, Frankie Wimbish, Jace Gillman, and  
4 Cavan Gillman; and to his many other relatives and friends; and, be  
5 it further

6         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
7 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
8 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Ramsay  
9 Gillman.