

By: Miller of Erath

H.C.R. No. 168

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, John Cowan is retiring from the Texas Association of  
2 Dairymen in June 2011 after serving the organization in several  
3 capacities, including that of executive director, and after  
4 devoting almost 40 years to the dairy industry; and

5           WHEREAS, Mr. Cowan began his career in 1970, when he accepted  
6 a position with an Associated Milk Producers truck facility in  
7 Dublin, Texas; over the years, he rose from washing milk trucks and  
8 tanks to assuming increasing levels of responsibility at different  
9 cooperative locations, all the while advancing his knowledge of the  
10 business through formal and informal education; and

11           WHEREAS, A longtime resident of Dublin, Mr. Cowan also played  
12 an active civic role in that community during his years there; he  
13 served as president of the Dublin school board and as a member of  
14 the Dublin City Council, and in 1985 he was named Man of the Year;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, In 1990, he moved to Arlington to assume a new role  
17 with the Associated Milk Producers, which later merged with other  
18 cooperatives to form the Dairy Farmers of America; he subsequently  
19 became executive director of the newly created Texas Association of  
20 Dairymen, a post he held for eight years; and

21           WHEREAS, Mr. Cowan has additionally worked to advance the  
22 interests of his field through his service on various boards and  
23 committees and through his involvement with many organizations and  
24 state agencies, including the Texas Critical Infrastructure

1 Advisory Group, the State Technical Committee of the Natural  
2 Resources Conservation Service, and the United States Animal Health  
3 Association; and

4 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan has devoted countless hours to  
5 advocating for and defending the rights of dairy farmers; his  
6 contributions over the course of a distinguished career were  
7 recognized in 2009 when the Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council  
8 bestowed on him its highest honor, naming him Cooperator of the  
9 Year; and

10 WHEREAS, John Cowan has been described by his peers as "a man  
11 of extreme importance to agriculture" and as "a hardworking,  
12 knowledgeable, honest and loyal representative [of] the industry";  
13 now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas  
15 hereby extend its thanks and appreciation to John Cowan for his  
16 years of service to the Texas dairy industry and wish him the best  
17 in his retirement; and, be it further

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