

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 1255

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The citizens of Baytown and the Greek community of
2 Southeast Texas lost a devoted friend with the death of George Sam
3 Saphos on January 30, 2011, at the age of 85; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Galveston on September 7, 1925, Mr. Saphos
5 answered his nation's call to duty as a young man and served with
6 the U.S. Army Air Forces; he graduated from the University of
7 Pittsburgh, where he majored in electrical engineering and played
8 on the Pitt football team; after college, he worked with Sargent
9 Electric in Pittsburgh before returning to Texas and beginning a
10 long, productive career with Merit Electric in Houston; and

11 WHEREAS, A patriotic American who loved his country, Mr.
12 Saphos was equally proud of his Greek heritage, and he did much to
13 instill a love and appreciation for Greek culture and traditions in
14 his extended family and friends; he was active in Kavo-Papas, the
15 Houston Chapter of the Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America, and he
16 served many terms as an officer of the charitable organization, on
17 occasion leading the group as president; reportedly the oldest,
18 longest-standing member of the national brotherhood, he was also a
19 member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive
20 Association; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Saphos shared a rewarding marriage of 47 years
22 with his wife, Maria; they were blessed with three children,
23 Isabel, Alex, and Mike, as well as three grandchildren, whom he
24 especially loved spending time with; devoted to his faith, he was a

1 longtime member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in
2 Houston, and he later attended St. John the Theologian Greek
3 Orthodox Church in Webster; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to competing for many years in the
5 Baytown Bowling League, Mr. Saphos was an avid golfer and held
6 membership in the Goose Creek Country Club; he was also an
7 enthusiastic gardener and pinochle player; and

8 WHEREAS, George Saphos enjoyed a life that was rich in
9 family, friends, and accomplishments, and he leaves behind a record
10 of service and achievement that will be forever remembered with
11 pride by all who held him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be
12 it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of George Sam Saphos
15 and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
16 wife, Maria Lardas Saphos; to his daughter and son-in-law, Isabel
17 and Lee Mitchell; to his sons and daughters-in-law, Alex and
18 Melissa Saphos and Mike and Michelle Saphos; to his grandsons,
19 George Mitchell, Travis Mitchell, and Christopher Saphos; and to
20 his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of George Sam
24 Saphos.