

By: Bonnen

H.R. No. 1380

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Brazoria County lost a dedicated
2 citizen and true leader with the passing of Leland B. Kee of
3 Angleton on December 9, 2010, at the age of 93; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in 1917 in Nogalus Prairie to James Taylor and
5 Mary Jane Wheat Kee, Leland Kee graduated from North Texas State
6 Teachers College and then taught and coached boys' softball in
7 rural Trinity County for two years; he resigned from his job
8 immediately after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and enlisted in the
9 U.S. Navy, serving in the South Pacific from 1943 to 1945; and

10 WHEREAS, After the war, he enrolled at The University of
11 Texas at Austin to study law, and upon graduation in 1948 he began a
12 successful career in Angleton; in addition to distinguishing
13 himself as general counsel to the Port of Freeport, Mr. Kee served
14 as president of the Brazoria County Bar Association, was licensed
15 to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, and was appointed in 1961
16 by Governor Price Daniel to a six-year term on the Texas Board of
17 Corrections; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Kee put his expertise to work in behalf of the
19 Angleton Independent School District, serving on the board of
20 trustees for nine years and acting as legal counsel to five
21 superintendents; he also had a primary role in annexation work to
22 increase the tax base for the district, an accomplishment that will
23 continue to benefit generations of students well into the future;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Actively involved in his community, he was a charter
2 member of the Angleton Rotary Club and a founding member of the
3 Greater Angleton Chamber of Commerce, which named him Citizen of
4 the Year in 1972 and 1990 and honored him with a Pioneer Award in
5 2008; he was president and director of the Brazoria County
6 Transportation Planning Commission, and in 1977 led a delegation of
7 1,000 people to Austin to advocate for the construction of State
8 Highway 288; he also participated in the creation of the Brazosport
9 Economic Development Corporation; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Kee devoted untold hours to the First United
11 Methodist Church, serving as chair of its administrative board and
12 on various committees; he enjoyed 67 years of fulfilling
13 partnership with his late wife, Marie Harkins Kee, and together
14 they welcomed four children into their family; and

15 WHEREAS, This esteemed civic leader set in motion initiatives
16 that have made Angleton and Brazoria County a better place to live
17 and work, and he will forever hold a special place in the memories
18 of all who were privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Leland B. Kee and
21 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
22 daughters, Susan Endendyk and her husband, Bruce, and Nancy Kee
23 Patterson; to his son, Barry Kee, and his wife, Lynn; to his
24 grandchildren, John Endendyk and his wife, Kristen, Matthew
25 Endendyk, Sara Patterson, Elissa Patterson, Gena Patterson,
26 Bradley Kee, and Michael Kee; to his great-grandson, William
27 Endendyk; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Leland B.
5 Kee.