

By: Margo

H.R. No. 1849

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends will long cherish their memories
2 of Frank Gillespie McKnight, who passed away on April 24, 2011, at
3 the age of 89; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in El Paso to Arthur Lanier and Frances
5 Gillespie McKnight on June 28, 1921, Frank McKnight graduated from
6 Austin High School and then attended the New Mexico Military
7 Institute; he earned his bachelor's degree in 1942 from The
8 University of Texas at Austin, where he was a member of the Delta
9 Kappa Epsilon fraternity; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. McKnight entered the United States Army and
11 served in England, Germany, and Norway during World War II and the
12 postwar occupation; he was discharged in 1946 with the rank of
13 major; and

14 WHEREAS, Soon after returning to the United States, he
15 married the former Sara Stevens, and they shared 64 happy years
16 together; they were blessed with three children and eventually saw
17 their family grow to include two additional generations; and

18 WHEREAS, For more than 20 years, Mr. McKnight was associated
19 with Anderson, Clayton and Company, an international cotton firm;
20 he worked in its Abilene office, at the company headquarters in
21 Houston, and as the manager of the El Paso District, where he
22 oversaw cotton gins and oil-seed crushing mills extending from
23 eastern Arizona to Pecos, Texas; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1967, Mr. McKnight was elected president of the

1 Western Cotton Shippers Association and also became a director of
2 the American Cotton Shippers Association; two years later, he
3 received a presidential appointment to the United States Department
4 of Agriculture, serving as the associate general sales manager and
5 later as the secretary of the Commodity Credit Corporation; and

6 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan was a director of the El Paso
7 Housing Authority and vice president of the El Paso Museum of Art
8 Association; he was also president of several organizations,
9 including the El Paso County General Assistance Agency, the El Paso
10 County Historical Society, the Friends of the El Paso Museum of Art,
11 the Caballeros Men's Club, the El Paso Tennis Club, and the Del
12 Norte Chapter of the U.S. Cavalry Association; and

13 WHEREAS, A prominent member of several congregations through
14 the years, Mr. McKnight was a member of Saint Francis on the Hill
15 Church and served as a vestryman for the Episcopal Church of the
16 Heavenly Rest in Abilene, Saint John's Episcopal Church in McLean,
17 Virginia, and the Church of Saint Clement in El Paso; and

18 WHEREAS, The loss of Frank McKnight is keenly felt by his
19 loved ones and the numerous friends that he made through the years
20 as well as by the many people in Texas and beyond whose lives he
21 forever enriched; now, therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
23 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Frank Gillespie
24 McKnight and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family:
25 to his wife, Sara Stevens McKnight; to his daughters, Nancy
26 McKnight Howell and her husband, John, and Elizabeth McKnight
27 Manning and her husband, Terry; to his son, Steven Lanier McKnight;

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1 to his nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and to his
2 other relatives and friends; and, be it further

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