

By: Anderson of McLennan

H.R. No. 2410

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends are mourning the loss of Milton  
2 John Norris, Jr., who passed away on April 20, 2011, at the age of  
3 91; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Burleson to Milton John Norris, Sr., and  
5 Irma Ringo Norris on March 8, 1920, M. J. Norris graduated from  
6 Texas A&M University in 1942 and was commissioned as a second  
7 lieutenant in the United States Army; and

8           WHEREAS, Before shipping out for overseas duty in World War  
9 II, he married his high school sweetheart, the former Winifred  
10 Marie Chandler, on September 5, 1942, at Fort Benning, Georgia; the  
11 couple later raised two sons and enjoyed 65 rewarding years  
12 together, until Mrs. Norris's death in 2007; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Norris served as an infantry captain in the  
14 Philippines, participating in amphibious combat landings at  
15 Zamboanga and Malabang on Mindanao Island and later in the  
16 dismantling of fortifications in the Kure area of Japan; and

17           WHEREAS, After his discharge, Mr. Norris earned a master's  
18 degree in agronomy at Texas A&M University and embarked on a career  
19 as a research agronomist and associate professor; over the course  
20 of nearly four decades, he worked at the Bluebonnet Experiment  
21 Station in McGregor and at the Texas AgriLife Blackland Research  
22 and Extension Center in Temple, focusing on soil fertility, crop  
23 production, plant breeding, and pasture grass development; a  
24 frequent guest on area radio and television farm shows, he enjoyed

1 showing and discussing his various agricultural experiments; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1992, Mr. Norris received the Norwood Award and  
3 the Burleson High School Ex-Student Association Hall of Fame Award;  
4 in addition, the Heart of Texas Council of the Boy Scouts of America  
5 presented him with their highest adult award, the Silver Beaver, in  
6 recognition of his outstanding work as a scoutmaster; he also  
7 served his community in his role as the president of the McGregor  
8 Rotary Club and as a Sunday school teacher, lay leader, board  
9 member, and chair of the board for his church; and

10 WHEREAS, M. J. Norris lived a rich and purposeful life  
11 centered around his family and his work, and he will long be  
12 remembered with admiration by all who had the good fortune to know  
13 him; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
15 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Milton John Norris,  
16 Jr., and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to  
17 his sons, John Robert Norris and his wife, Kay, and William Milton  
18 Norris and his wife, Janie; to his sisters-in-law, Mary Norris and  
19 Florus Chandler; to his numerous nieces and nephews; and to his  
20 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 M. J.  
24 Norris.