

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 108

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For many years, veteran broadcaster Bob Nance was
2 one of the most familiar and distinctive voices on KNAL radio in
3 Victoria; and

4 WHEREAS, KNAL was founded in 1948 as a country music station;
5 pronounced "canal," the station's call letters were chosen in honor
6 of the Victoria Barge Canal that connected the town to the Gulf
7 Intracoastal Waterway; and

8 WHEREAS, A native of Beeville, Bob Nance joined KNAL's lineup
9 of announcers in 1953, and in those colorful early days of the
10 station, improvisation was the order of the day; on Mr. Nance's
11 first night on the job, the station abruptly lost its affiliation to
12 its network, and the new deejay was forced to replace a baseball
13 game with an impromptu program of recorded music; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Nance continued to hone his improvisational
15 skills as the announcer for the local minor league baseball team,
16 the Victoria Rosebuds; home games were broadcast live, but the
17 budget did not allow the station to accompany the team to away
18 games, so Mr. Nance dramatized the play-by-play as he received it
19 from the Western Union teletype, adding such sound effects as crowd
20 noise, the whistle of a passing train, or the sound of an aircraft
21 overhead; an engineer in the studio next door supplied the sound of
22 a hit by cracking two bats together near the microphone; and

23 WHEREAS, In those early days, Mr. Nance also witnessed the
24 beginnings of several stellar careers; standing in the doorway of

1 the station one summer day in 1953, he was handed a demo record by a
2 young sailor named George Jones, and the station was occasionally
3 visited by the young Jim Lehrer, the future PBS anchorman, whose
4 father managed the local Trailways bus station; Mary Elizabeth
5 Smith, the sister of fellow KNAL announcer Bob Smith, went on to
6 become Liz Smith, the internationally famous gossip columnist; and

7 WHEREAS, The years Bob Nance spent in the broadcast booth at
8 KNAL have made him a beloved and well-respected figure in Victoria,
9 and he may indeed look back with pride on a career well spent,
10 bringing the gifts of entertainment, inspiration, and information
11 to his listeners; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
13 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby honor Bob Nance for his
14 immeasurable contribution to his community and extend to him
15 sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for Mr. Nance as an expression of high regard by the Texas
18 House of Representatives.