

By: Guillen

H.R. No. 282

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Atascosa County sheriff Wright Thomas Williams
2 retired on December 31, 2012, concluding a distinguished law
3 enforcement career that spanned four decades; and

4 WHEREAS, After graduating from Poteet High School in 1954 and
5 serving in the United States Army, Tommy Williams followed his
6 father into the agricultural industry and began work as a peanut
7 buyer; he was elected as Atascosa County sheriff in 1972, and he was
8 subsequently reelected to nine additional terms in office; at the
9 time of his retirement, he was one of the longest-serving county
10 sheriffs in the history of the Lone Star State; and

11 WHEREAS, This respected public servant traces his family's
12 roots in the area back to 1856, before Atascosa County was founded;
13 in his choice of a career path, he followed in the footsteps of two
14 of his forebears: William Norwood Gates, who served as the county's
15 sheriff during the Civil War and Reconstruction, and Leroy Polk
16 Williams, who held the office in the 1870s; and

17 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, Sheriff Williams has
18 enjoyed the support of his wife, Sandra Mathews; together they have
19 a daughter, Amber, who has added to the family's tradition of
20 service in her role as an Atascosa County deputy sheriff; and

21 WHEREAS, Tommy Williams has devoted his professional life to
22 assisting and safeguarding area citizens, and he may indeed take
23 justifiable pride in his longstanding record of achievement; now,
24 therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
2 Legislature hereby honor Wright Thomas Williams for his outstanding
3 tenure as the sheriff of Atascosa County and extend to him sincere
4 best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
6 prepared for Sheriff Williams as an expression of high regard by the
7 Texas House of Representatives.