

By: Lewis

H.R. No. 372

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Family and friends will long cherish their memories  
2 of LeRoy Reed of Odessa, who passed away on January 11, 2013, at the  
3 age of 86; and

4           WHEREAS, Mr. Reed was born in Temple on July 1, 1926, to Grant  
5 and Helena Reed; in 1940, he and his family moved to San Angelo,  
6 where he continued his education at Blackshear High School; and

7           WHEREAS, LeRoy Reed was not yet 20 when he married the love of  
8 his life, the former Eldora Harris; the couple became the proud  
9 parents of a son, Marvin, and shared a rewarding marriage of 64  
10 years before Mrs. Reed's death in 2009; and

11           WHEREAS, After working as a chef at the Elliott Hotel in  
12 Odessa, Mr. Reed moved with his wife to Kermit, where, at the age of  
13 21, the pair opened Everybody's Cafe; they subsequently returned to  
14 Odessa, and Mr. Reed worked for a time as an executive chef; in  
15 1958, he and his wife launched another restaurant, LeRoy's Pit  
16 Bar-B-Q, which they ran until 1973; their son then took over the  
17 business and Mr. and Mrs. Reed established LeRoy's Restaurant  
18 Supply; they operated the latter enterprise for two decades, until  
19 selling the concern to their son and grandson in 1994; Mr. Reed also  
20 invested in rental property and found success as an insurance and  
21 real estate salesman; and

22           WHEREAS, Deeply committed to the welfare of his community,  
23 LeRoy Reed gave generously of his time and talents to a host of  
24 notable endeavors; he chaired the original City of Odessa

1 Convention and Visitors Bureau and held a seat on the original  
2 Enterprise Zone Committee; in addition, he was a founding member  
3 and officer of the Southeast Civic League, Permian Basin Black  
4 Chamber of Commerce, Blackshear High School Steer Booster Club,  
5 Ector Lions Club, Gertrude Bruce Historical Cultural Center,  
6 Woodson Boys Club, and Regular Fellows Club; a devoted congregant  
7 of the Texas and Clements Street Church of Christ, he was also  
8 affiliated with the Mexican American Network of Odessa, the Texas  
9 Coalition of Black Democrats, the Ector High School Football  
10 Booster Club, and the NAACP; moreover, he benefited Texans across  
11 the state through his service as a director of the Lions Eye Bank  
12 and the Lions Camp for Crippled Children; and

13         WHEREAS, Among the many accolades bestowed on this esteemed  
14 Texan were the 2006 R. C. Hoiles Award from the *Odessa American*  
15 newspaper and the service award from the Gertrude Bruce Historical  
16 Cultural Center, as well as selection to the Business Hall of Fame  
17 by the Permian Basin Black Chamber of Commerce and designation as  
18 Citizen of the Year by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; and

19         WHEREAS, Treasured for his cheerful, joyous nature, Mr. Reed  
20 took pleasure in countless friendships and delighted in his large  
21 extended family; the annual family reunion was an event that he  
22 looked forward to with great anticipation; and

23         WHEREAS, LeRoy Reed achieved a life that was rich in service,  
24 accomplishments, and close ties of affection, and those who were  
25 privileged to share in his love and friendship will forever hold him  
26 close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

27         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas

1 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of LeRoy Reed and  
2 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his son,  
3 Marvin; to his grandson, Anthony, and his wife, Jerri; to his  
4 great-grandchildren, Caroline Rose and Rohan Anthony; to his  
5 siblings, Jimmie, Grant, and Charles Reed, Ruby Peyton, Alice  
6 Johns, and Gloria DeWitt; and to his many other relatives and  
7 friends; and, be it further

8         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
9 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
10 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of LeRoy Reed.