

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The people of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
2 lost one of their most esteemed leaders with the death of Chief
3 Oscola Clayton Marion Sylestine on January 31, 2013, at the age of
4 80; and

5 WHEREAS, A third-generation descendant of Alabama-Coushatta
6 Sub-Chief Colabe, Clayton Marion Sylestine was born in 1932; he was
7 renamed "Mikko Oscola," meaning flute, in 1993 while serving as
8 second chief, and he was subsequently elected to the lifelong
9 office of principal chief by a unanimous vote; he ably fulfilled the
10 myriad duties of this pivotal role from his inauguration on January
11 1, 1995, until his passing; and

12 WHEREAS, Chief Oscola previously volunteered his noted
13 leadership skills as an elected member of the Tribal Council for
14 five terms, including one as chairman, and he served as an elder in
15 the Indian Village Presbyterian Church; moreover, he worked
16 diligently to share the rich history and traditions of his culture
17 by speaking in local schools and making public appearances on
18 behalf of his tribe; he also advocated for federal recognition of
19 the tribe, which was reinstated in 1987; and

20 WHEREAS, Retired from Champion Paper International, where he
21 worked for 17 years, Chief Oscola pursued a number of traditional
22 crafts; he was a master of river cane basketry, which involved
23 harvesting and splitting bamboo-like cane and arranging it into
24 basket form, and he further distinguished himself in longleaf pine

1 needle basketry; in addition, he played for more than 30 years in
2 the fast-pitch softball circuit, earning a reputation for his
3 rising fastball; and

4 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his community, Chief Oscola made a
5 meaningful difference in the lives of his loved ones and fellow
6 citizens alike, and his contributions to the Alabama-Coushatta
7 Tribe of Texas will continue to resonate for years to come; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Chief Oscola
11 Clayton Marion Sylestine and extend sincere sympathy to the members
12 of his family: to his wife, Ethelyn; to his two sons and two
13 daughters; to his many grandchildren; and to his other relatives
14 and friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Chief
18 Oscola Clayton Marion Sylestine.

White
Thompson of Harris

Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

H.R. No. 701

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 701 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on March 7, 2013.

Chief Clerk of the House