

By: Workman

H.R. No. 1169

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Alvin Olbrich of Lakeway is Texas A&M University's
2 oldest living football letterman, and this distinction is truly
3 worthy of recognition; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of German immigrants who were cotton
5 farmers, "Block" Olbrich played football at Rosebud High School and
6 enrolled at Texas A&M in 1935; though he didn't make the team his
7 freshman year, head coach Homer Norton personally invited him to
8 try out again the next season after observing Mr. Olbrich's
9 tackling skills during an intramural game; and

10 WHEREAS, He made the squad in 1936, and the next season he
11 began receiving an athletic scholarship that awarded him \$20 a
12 month; during his first two years as an A&M player, he served as the
13 backup for Joe Routt, the first Aggie to win All-American honors;
14 while he didn't letter during that time, he was a valued teammate,
15 and he helped mentor a young fullback, John Kimbrough, who had
16 recently transferred to the college and would lead the Aggies to
17 their 1939 national championship; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Olbrich became a letterman in 1938, during his
19 final year at Texas A&M; his personal highlight that season came
20 against the Texas Longhorns, when he recovered a fumble and ran it
21 in for a touchdown, becoming the first Aggie to score a TD in
22 Memorial Stadium; and

23 WHEREAS, Following his graduation with a bachelor's degree in
24 mechanical engineering in 1939, Mr. Olbrich had a successful career

1 with Phillips Petroleum, which included both domestic and
2 international assignments; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Olbrich has remained a loyal supporter of the
4 Aggies through the years and decorates his apartment in maroon and
5 white memorabilia; he is especially interested in the fortunes of
6 the football team and hopes to return to Kyle Field to attend a game
7 during the 2013 season; and

8 WHEREAS, A living link to the rich tradition of Texas A&M
9 football, Alvin "Block" Olbrich is proudly carrying on his duties
10 as a 12th man after 95 years of life well lived, and he is a source
11 of wisdom and inspiration to all who are privileged to know him;
12 now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
14 Legislature hereby honor Alvin "Block" Olbrich, Texas A&M
15 University's oldest living football letterman, and extend to him a
16 hearty "Gig 'Em" and sincere best wishes for continued happiness;
17 and, be it further

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