

By: Branch

H.R. No. 1357

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Brad Watson is leaving his post as a broadcaster at  
2 WFAA-TV in April 2013, drawing to a close a 34-year career during  
3 which he has provided thoughtful coverage of numerous issues  
4 affecting the residents of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex; and

5           WHEREAS, After studying journalism and political science at  
6 Iowa State University, Mr. Watson worked for three years at a  
7 station in Iowa and then joined WFAA in 1979, at the age of 25; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Watson has covered a multitude of events in the  
9 decades since, from natural disasters to presidential elections to  
10 a military invasion; he has played a particularly important role in  
11 the station's political coverage, including hosting the Sunday  
12 morning program *Inside Texas Politics*, and he anchored WFAA's  
13 top-rated weekend newscasts from 1992 to 2000; he was also on air on  
14 the morning of February 1, 2003, when the space shuttle *Columbia*  
15 tragedy took place, and he served as a coanchor of the station's  
16 live coverage over the course of eight hours; and

17           WHEREAS, When Hurricane Katrina made landfall in New Orleans  
18 in 2005, this veteran newsman was the only Dallas-Fort Worth  
19 television journalist to remain in the city to report on the damage  
20 and suffering; more recently, he produced a story that helped  
21 encourage the Texas Historical Commission to dedicate a marker  
22 honoring Dallas police officer J. D. Tippit, who was killed by Lee  
23 Harvey Oswald in the wake of the assassination of President John  
24 F. Kennedy in 1963; and

1           WHEREAS, Once he delivers his last report for WFAA,  
2 Mr. Watson will begin a new job as the communications director for  
3 the energy company Luminant; and

4           WHEREAS, Through his dedication as a broadcaster, Brad Watson  
5 has won the admiration of his audience and the respect of his peers,  
6 and it is a pleasure to wish him well as he embarks on an exciting  
7 new chapter in his life; now, therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commend Brad Watson for his successful career as  
10 a newscaster and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued  
11 success and happiness; and, be it further

12           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
13 prepared for Mr. Watson as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
14 House of Representatives.