

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life rich in meaningful service drew to a close
2 with the passing of former state representative Donald Eugene Lee
3 of Harlingen on August 26, 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of William Eugene and Faye Hudson Lee, Don
5 Lee was born in Snyder on December 7, 1933, and graduated from
6 Raymondville High School; in 1957 he began a job with the Texas
7 Department of Insurance as a property rating territory supervisor,
8 soon moving to a private insurance agency, and then in 1966, he
9 became the sole proprietor of an insurance firm in Harlingen; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee's public service began in 1979, when he won
11 a seat on the Harlingen City Council; after completing his term, he
12 successfully ran for state representative from Cameron County in
13 1980 and was returned to office through two successive sessions; in
14 the Texas Legislature he served as vice chair of the insurance
15 committee and the public health committee and was on task forces on
16 medical care for indigent populations and economic development
17 along the border; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee also owned Town and Country Bank in
19 Harlingen from 1966 until 1987, when he returned to the Texas
20 Department of Insurance to help implement the coastal windstorm
21 insurance pool program for which he had advocated during his tenure
22 as a representative; he ended up staying at the agency beyond his
23 two-year commitment and oversaw 7 field offices with 75 inspectors
24 before he retired in 1994; and

1 WHEREAS, Deeply engaged in civic life, Mr. Lee belonged to a
2 number of organizations that included the Elks Lodge, the
3 Raymondville Masonic Lodge, and the Harlingen Noon Lions Club, and
4 his dedication and active involvement earned him the accolades of
5 Elk of the Year and Outstanding Lion of the Year; in addition to
6 serving in both the Ben Hur Shrine and the Royal Order of Jesters in
7 Austin, he was a board member and unofficial "mayor" of his
8 condominium homeowners' association; while in Harlingen, he
9 volunteered as drive chair for the United Way and the March of Dimes
10 and served on the boards of the local chamber of commerce, Boys and
11 Girls Club, and Firemen's Pension Fund; and

12 WHEREAS, This esteemed community leader was especially proud
13 of his work with the Jaycees, where he was declared Rookie of the
14 Year shortly before being elected president of the Harlingen
15 chapter; over the course of his leadership, the chapter became the
16 recipient of the coveted Giessenbier Award, was named Outstanding
17 Club in the state, and won a host of other top honors, a level of
18 achievement unprecedented in its 50-year history; he was
19 consequently designated Outstanding Area President and State
20 Outstanding President, and he went on to become an International
21 JCI senator while gaining further recognition with the
22 organization's Distinguished Service Award; and

23 WHEREAS, In his retirement, Mr. Lee continued to enjoy the
24 support of a devoted family that included his significant other of
25 nearly two decades, Kathy Hall, his three cherished children, and
26 his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; he treasured the happy
27 moments he shared with his circle of loved ones, among them numerous

1 close friends and neighbors to whom he was always willing to lend a
2 hand in any time of need; and

3 WHEREAS, Compassionate by nature and generous in spirit, Don
4 Lee is greatly missed by all those whose lives were enriched by his
5 kindness, his fellowship, and the myriad contributions that he made
6 to the communities he called home; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
8 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable
9 Donald Eugene Lee and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his
10 family: to Kathy Hall; to his sons, Delton Lee and his wife, Terri,
11 and Clayton Lee and his wife, Christi; to his daughter, Donna Lee
12 Cato, and her husband, Chris; to his grandchildren and
13 great-grandchildren; and to his other relatives and many friends;
14 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 former
18 state representative Don Lee.

Lucio III

H.R. No. 1757

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1757 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 8, 2013.

Chief Clerk of the House