

By: King of Parker

H.R. No. 2624

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Residents of Weatherford lost an admired fellow  
2 citizen with the passing of former state representative and  
3 longtime educator W. G. Coody on March 24, 2013, at the age of 78;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Wallis on May 8, 1934, to Amelia and James  
6 Coody, "Bill" Coody graduated from Wallis High School in 1951 and  
7 went on to pursue additional course work at Wharton County Junior  
8 College; in 1955, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was  
9 stationed for three years at England Air Force Base in Louisiana;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Returning to civilian life, he resumed his studies  
12 and attended Sam Houston State University, where he earned  
13 bachelor's and master's degrees in political science; he began his  
14 teaching career in Iago public schools and in 1963, he moved into  
15 the field of higher education in the social sciences department of  
16 Weatherford College; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1972, Mr. Coody successfully ran for a seat in the  
18 state legislature; he represented District 63, which at the time  
19 encompassed Parker County and a portion of Tarrant County, and he  
20 was admired for his integrity and his faithful service to his  
21 constituents, who returned him to office for five successive terms;  
22 well-known for his ability to defuse tense situations through his  
23 good humor, he forged close and lasting friendships with his  
24 colleagues in Austin, and in his final session, he had the

1 distinction of being named a *Texas Monthly* "Ten Best" legislator;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, After more than a decade in office, Mr. Coody  
4 departed from public service and eventually returned to the  
5 classroom at Weatherford College; during his 15 remaining years  
6 there, he was popular among students for his masterful ability to  
7 bring to life all manner of historical lessons, with his classes  
8 commonly the first on the roster to fill; on retiring in 2010, he  
9 was granted faculty emeritus status; and

10 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan was blessed with the support of  
11 a loving family, including his high school sweetheart and wife of  
12 nearly six decades, Sue; the couple became the parents of three  
13 children, Cathy, Sam, and Jim, and over the years, they also  
14 welcomed into their family four treasured grandchildren, Claire,  
15 Jacob, Ethan, and Caitlin; and

16 WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a  
17 man's life, some people leave their unmistakable mark on the world  
18 as they move through it, and Bill Coody's contributions will long  
19 resonate in the lives of all who knew him; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable W. G.  
22 "Bill" Coody and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his  
23 family: to his wife, Sue Coody; to his children, Cathy Zellers and  
24 her husband, Ed, and Sam Coody and his wife, Lisa; to his  
25 grandchildren, Claire Varnon and her husband, Richard, Jacob Coody,  
26 Ethan Lucas Coody, and Caitlin Zellers and her fiance, Matthew  
27 Cobb; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be it

1 further

2           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
3 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
4 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bill Coody.