

By: Fallon

H.R. No. 3080

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and
2 meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family of William
3 W. Fomby of Hamlin, who passed away on April 13, 2013, at the age of
4 93; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Jones County on December 22, 1919, Bill
6 Fomby was the youngest of James William and Katherine Futrell
7 Fomby's seven children; in 1940, two years after graduating from
8 Hamlin High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy; and

9 WHEREAS, A gunner's mate first class, Mr. Fomby was stationed
10 at Pearl Harbor aboard the battleship USS *Oklahoma* during the
11 fateful Japanese surprise attack on December 7, 1941; although his
12 ship was struck and capsized, he survived and continued to serve the
13 war effort in the Pacific theater until the end of hostilities; and

14 WHEREAS, On returning home in 1947, Mr. Fomby met the love of
15 his life, Vie Bailey, and the two were married in Hamlin that same
16 year; in 1953, they moved to Odessa, where they lived for more than
17 four decades and raised their two children, Carla and James; the
18 couple returned to Hamlin in 1997; Mr. and Mrs. Fomby shared a
19 rewarding union of more than 50 years until her passing in 2001, and
20 over time, their family was blessed with the addition of four
21 grandchildren; and

22 WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan worked in oilfield sales covering
23 a 30-county territory in West Texas and Southeastern New Mexico
24 until his retirement; he was a longtime member of Highland United

1 Methodist Church in Odessa, where he served on the administrative
2 board, as president of the Builders Sunday school class, and as a
3 Sunday school teacher, in addition to assisting with building
4 construction to accommodate the growing congregation; and

5 WHEREAS, Although Bill Fomby is deeply missed, he will long
6 be remembered with admiration and affection by all those who were
7 fortunate enough to share in the richness of his life; 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 William W. Fomby
11 and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his
12 children, Carla Fomby and James Fomby; to his grandchildren, Scott
13 Stephens, Kenneth Link, Garrett Fomby, and Lauren Fomby; and to his
14 other relatives 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 Bill Fomby.