

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, William Burgess Crooker of Big Spring, a World War
2 II veteran and a longtime public servant, is deserving of the
3 highest commendation for his exceptional efforts in behalf of his
4 country and his fellow Texans; and

5 WHEREAS, During the Second World War, Mr. Crooker served as a
6 bombardier with the U.S. Army Air Corps in the European theater; the
7 last mission he flew took place on December 6, 1944, when he
8 participated in a bombing raid on Nazi facilities at Devinska,
9 Czechoslovakia; about 15 minutes after the crew completed its
10 mission, their plane took heavy fire, and Mr. Crooker was among
11 those who escaped by parachute, only to be seized by the enemy on
12 the ground; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Crooker was interrogated and held in solitary
14 confinement before being transferred to Stalag One, a prison camp
15 in northern Germany; the American and British airmen held there
16 were given little to eat, and they endured severe hardships before
17 the camp was liberated by Russian forces on May 1, 1945; and

18 WHEREAS, Following his return to the States, Bill Crooker
19 exchanged wedding vows with the former Joyce Glenn on August 8,
20 1945; the couple lived for a time on the East Coast, while
21 Mr. Crooker completed his bachelor's degree in economics at the
22 University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and then
23 worked for General Electric and Ortho Pharmaceutical in
24 Philadelphia; after returning to Big Spring, Mrs. Crooker's

1 hometown, Mr. Crooker was employed with Cosden for 13 years before
2 he left to establish an employment agency and a real estate company;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, This dynamic Texan was elected as Howard County
5 commissioner for Precinct 3 in 1968, and he continued to serve
6 faithfully in that role for four decades; in addition, he has given
7 generously of his time and talents in numerous other positions of
8 civic leadership; and

9 WHEREAS, An exemplary member of the Greatest Generation, Bill
10 Crooker helped to defend liberty at a time of enormous peril, and
11 his contributions to his community, his state, and his nation are a
12 source of inspiration to all who know him; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
14 Legislature hereby honor William Burgess Crooker for his
15 distinguished record of service, both in war and in times of peace,
16 and commend him for his outstanding courage and dedication; and, be
17 it further

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

Darby

Straus	Guerra	Otto
Allen	Guillen	Paddie
Alonzo	Gutierrez	Parker
Alvarado	Harless	Paul
Anchia	Hernandez	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Herrero	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Howard	Phillips
Ashby	Huberty	Pickett
Aycock	Hughes	Price
Bell	Hunter	Raney
Blanco	Isaac	Raymond
Bohac	Israel	Reynolds
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Riddle
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rinaldi
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burns	Keough	Rodriguez of Travis
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Romero, Jr.
Button	King of Parker	Rose
Canales	King of Taylor	Sanford
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schaefer
Clardy	Klick	Schofield
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Dale	Laubenberg	Smith
Darby	Leach	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Harris	Lozano	Springer
Deshotel	Lucio III	Stephenson
Dukes	Márquez	Stickland
Dutton	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Elkins	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Faircloth	McClendon	Tinderholt
Fallon	Menéndez	Turner of Collin
Farias	Metcalf	Turner of Harris
Farney	Meyer	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	VanDeaver
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villalba
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White of Bell
Galindo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Geren	Murphy	Workman
Giddings	Murr	Wray
Goldman	Naishtat	Wu
Gonzales	Nevárez	Zedler
González	Oliveira	Zerwas

H.R. No. 306

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 306 was adopted by the House on February 10, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House