

By: Gonzales

H.R. No. 642

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family, friends, and members of The University of
2 Texas at Austin community are mourning the loss of Vincent Rairden
3 DiNino, director of bands emeritus at UT, who passed away on
4 September 9, 2014, at the age of 95; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Manhattan, Kansas, on October 25, 1918, to
6 Leah DiNino, a concert pianist, and Frank DiNino, a professional
7 clarinetist, Vince DiNino developed a passion for music at an early
8 age; he established a dance band while attending high school and
9 went on to earn a bachelor's degree in music education from the
10 University of Minnesota and a master's degree from North Dakota
11 State University; and

12 WHEREAS, During his junior year of college, Mr. DiNino
13 married his high school sweetheart, the former Jane Dahlgren, and
14 over the course of their 67 rewarding years together, they were
15 blessed with two daughters, Dinah and Carmen; after Mrs. DiNino's
16 passing in 2008, Mr. DiNino was fortunate enough to find love again,
17 and he exchanged wedding vows with Timothy Ann Sloan; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. DiNino answered his nation's call to duty as a
19 member of the U.S. Army, serving for two years during World War II;
20 after returning to civilian life, he began performing in New York
21 City and Los Angeles as a French hornist and accompanied such
22 legendary artists as Frank Sinatra, Percy Faith, Perry Como, Stan
23 Kenton, and Tommy Dorsey; he later returned to Minnesota, where he
24 worked as director of bands at Alexandria High School and headed the

1 district's music program; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1955, Mr. DiNino was hired as director of the UT
3 Longhorn Band, which at the time was managed by students and an
4 amateur conductor; over the course of his 30-year tenure, the
5 ensemble grew from 70 members to more than 400, performed at the
6 1974 Super Bowl and at the inauguration ceremonies of Presidents
7 John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, and traveled across the
8 nation and to South America; moreover, Mr. DiNino helped integrate
9 the program to include women and minorities, and he also selected
10 the Western-style burnt orange uniforms that have since remained
11 the group's signature look; he was promoted to director of UT bands
12 in 1969 and served in that position until 1985; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. DiNino's contributions to UT continued long
14 after his retirement; he and his wife Jane were cofounders of the
15 Longhorn Alumni Band, the largest alumni band organization in the
16 country, and they served on its board of directors for many years;
17 in addition, the couple assisted in funding numerous scholarships
18 and establishing an endowed chair for the director of the
19 university's bands and an endowed professorship for the director of
20 the Longhorn Band; Mr. DiNino also made a number of guest
21 appearances with UT ensembles as director of bands emeritus and
22 frequently attended home football games in support of his beloved
23 Longhorns; and

24 WHEREAS, Earning well-deserved recognition for his
25 extraordinary talent and his dedicated efforts in behalf of UT,
26 Mr. DiNino was inducted into the Longhorn Hall of Honor in 1996 and
27 was named an honorary member of the T-Association, the Silver Spurs

1 Alumni Association, and the Texas Cowboys; he further distinguished
2 himself as a member of the American Bandmasters Association, the
3 College Band Directors National Association, and the American
4 Society of Composers, Arrangers, and Performers, and he was
5 selected as the 2011 Bandmaster of the Year by the Texas Bandmasters
6 Association; and

7 WHEREAS, An inspiring mentor for countless young musicians,
8 Vince DiNino helped transform the Longhorn band into the
9 world-class Showband of the Southwest, and he leaves behind a
10 legacy that will continue to resonate at UT for many years to come;
11 now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
13 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Vincent Rairden
14 DiNino and extend sincere condolences to the members of his family:
15 to his wife, Timothy Ann Sloan DiNino; to his daughters, Dinah
16 Rieves and her husband, Mike, and Carmen Alspach and her husband,
17 Rick; to his grandson, Charlie Ward; to his stepsons, Michael Sloan
18 and his wife, Dena, Todd Sloan and his wife, Beth, Patrick Sloan,
19 Geof Sloan Sr. and his wife, Marianne, and Matthew Sloan; and to his
20 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Vincent
24 DiNino.