

By: Wray

H.R. No. 1195

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Don F. Essary, a longtime coach and administrator in
2 the Ennis and Mansfield Independent School Districts, passed away
3 on February 1, 2015, at the age of 80, leaving his family and
4 friends to reflect on a life that was rich in meaningful
5 accomplishments; and

6 WHEREAS, Don Essary was born in Bonham on September 1, 1934,
7 to Douglas and Lucille Essary; he graduated from Ennis High School
8 in 1953, and he went on to attend Hardin-Simmons University and East
9 Texas State University, earning an undergraduate degree in
10 education and biology; he also completed his master's degree in
11 education and later studied for a doctorate in administration;
12 answering his nation's call to duty as well, he served overseas as a
13 member of the U.S. Army; and

14 WHEREAS, While stationed in France, Mr. Essary met his future
15 wife, Louissette Tachdjian, whom he married in 1956; over the course
16 of their nearly six decades together, the couple became the parents
17 of two children, Brigitte and Thierry, and they later watched their
18 family grow to include five grandchildren and three
19 great-grandchildren; and

20 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan served as a coach and educator
21 in Ennis ISD for 15 years; as athletic director and head coach of
22 the Ennis High School football team, he helped lead the Lions to the
23 school's first state championship in 1975; Ennis defeated the
24 two-time defending state champs from Cuero High School to win the 3A

1 title, snapping Cuero's nation-leading 44-game winning streak in
2 the process; after leaving Ennis, Mr. Essary coached and taught in
3 the Mansfield Independent School District from 1990 to 1998; and

4 WHEREAS, A respected member of his community, Mr. Essary was
5 a valued congregant of Tabernacle Baptist Church, and he also gave
6 generously of his time and talents to benefit the local Optimist and
7 Lions Clubs in Ennis; in his leisure time, he enjoyed golfing and
8 spending time with his loved ones; and

9 WHEREAS, Don Essary lived a full and generous life centered
10 around his family, his community, and his profession, and he will
11 long be remembered with deep affection by all those who were
12 privileged to know him; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Don F. Essary and
15 extend sincere condolences to the members of his family: to his
16 wife, Louissette Essary; to his daughter, Brigitte McElroy, and her
17 husband, Eddie; to his daughter-in-law, Debbie Newton; to his
18 grandchildren, Mark, Kallie, and Kara Essary, Brooke Dixon and her
19 husband, Dustin, and Ryan McElroy and his wife, Kathryn; to his
20 great-grandchildren, Hannah, Adelyn, and Emmersyn Dixon; to his
21 brother, Glynn Essary; and to his other relatives and friends; and,
22 be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Don F.
26 Essary.