

By: Simpson

H.R. No. 1742

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The 100th birthday of an esteemed Texan is indeed a
2 special occasion, and retired teacher C. C. Turner of Longview is
3 celebrating this momentous milestone in his life on May 9, 2015, to
4 the delight of his family, friends, and former students; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Pritchett in 1915 to parents who were
6 farmers, Cleo C. Turner attended a number of different schools
7 while growing up; he graduated from the 10th grade in Glenwood as
8 salutatorian of his class and then completed high school in Gilmer,
9 staying in an auditorium dressing room with several other boys on
10 weeknights and traveling home on the weekends; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Turner received his associate's degree from the
12 College of Marshall and began his career in a small school in
13 Independence Springs, where he was both one of two teachers and the
14 principal; subsequently, he taught at West Mountain Elementary
15 School and Harmony Consolidated School; during the summers, he
16 waited tables at Baylor University while earning his bachelor's
17 degree, and he later attained a master's degree at East Texas State
18 University; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1942, Mr. Turner enlisted in the United States
20 Army Air Forces and was assigned to the Weather Service; he was
21 stationed in England, where he created maps for use by fighter
22 pilots, and he was also posted to Missouri, Oklahoma, Washington,
23 D.C., and finally Montgomery, Alabama, where he married his Texas
24 sweetheart, Eva Mae Raynes; the couple became the parents of three

1 children, Merrilyn, Linda, and Jerry, and they shared a fulfilling
2 relationship of 57 years before Mrs. Turner's passing in 2000; and

3 WHEREAS, C. C. Turner joined the faculty at Longview High
4 School in 1946; over the years, he won the enduring respect and
5 affection of countless students through his kindness, patience, and
6 ability to help them grasp and retain difficult concepts in
7 mathematics; he also became the district's first driver's education
8 instructor, a role in which his calm demeanor was a distinct
9 advantage; in addition, he taught classes at the Longview campus of
10 Kilgore College and at Trinity Day School; many of his students went
11 on to become teachers themselves; and

12 WHEREAS, A pillar of his community, Mr. Turner was named
13 Educator of the Year by the Longview Civitans, and he was selected
14 as 1978 Longview Teacher of the Year by his colleagues; moreover,
15 the city proclaimed May 22 as C. C. Turner Day in both 1984 and 1987,
16 under two different mayors, and he was accorded the Rotary Citizen
17 of the Year award in 1984; and

18 WHEREAS, In his later years, Mr. Turner has continued to
19 serve as a role model with his active lifestyle, participation in
20 church functions, and attendance at numerous class reunions, always
21 impeccably attired; he is a source of wisdom and inspiration to all,
22 and it is truly a pleasure to honor him for having joined an elite
23 group of Texans who can look back on 100 years of meaningful
24 achievements; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate C. C. Turner on his 100th birthday
27 and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and,

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
3 prepared for Mr. Turner as an expression of high regard by the Texas
4 House of Representatives.