

By: Herrero

H.R. No. 1772

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The city of Corpus Christi lost an admired citizen  
2 with the passing of oilman and philanthropist C. C. Winn on February  
3 20, 2015, at the age of 86; and

4           WHEREAS, Charles Coleman Winn was born on June 18, 1928, in  
5 Long Beach, California, to a family of Texans who soon followed the  
6 oil boom back to their home state; while a student at William Adams  
7 High School in Alice, "Charlie" Winn took his first job as an oil  
8 field roughneck; the salary he earned allowed him to attend Texas  
9 A&M University--Kingsville and The University of Texas at Austin  
10 before he was forced to abandon his studies due to lack of funds;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, Mr. Winn later became an oil scout and enjoyed his  
13 first professional success while drilling a well in Karnes County;  
14 the discovery proved to be the start of a prosperous career in the  
15 oil industry, and he went on to establish what would become a highly  
16 lucrative international oil firm in Corpus Christi; under his  
17 leadership, Winn Exploration Company, Inc., eventually operated  
18 oil and gas wells across Texas and nine other states, as well as in  
19 Canada and Australia; and

20           WHEREAS, Excelling at nearly every project he took on,  
21 Mr. Winn pursued interests in banking, real estate,  
22 nanotechnology, and medical research and development; he was named  
23 an All-American Wildcatter in 1993, and in 1996, he accepted the  
24 M. B. Rudman Outstanding Wildcatter Award; he served on the

1 National Petroleum Council until 1999, and in 2006, he received the  
2 Texas Oil and Gas Association's highest honor, the Distinguished  
3 Service Award; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Winn treated those who worked for him as family,  
5 and he made it a point to share his good fortune with them; he was  
6 known to buy his employees' lunches out of his own pocket almost  
7 every single day, and remembering the difficulties he had faced as a  
8 student of limited means, he helped put several of their children  
9 through college; his extraordinary generosity extended beyond his  
10 company, and each year he purchased Christmas presents for orphans  
11 in Piedras Negras in Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, A prominent civic leader, Mr. Winn served on  
13 trustee, development, and advisory boards for a multitude of  
14 businesses and organizations in South Texas, including American  
15 Bank in Corpus Christi, Baptist Children and Family Services, and  
16 CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio; repeatedly honored for  
17 his philanthropy, he was recognized by the International Good  
18 Neighbor Council in 1984 and 1999 for his efforts to promote  
19 friendly relations between the people of the United States and  
20 Mexico; he also received praise for his commitment to conservation  
21 and wildlife research, and he helped fund a program that would  
22 enable area teachers to use the Texas State Aquarium as an  
23 educational resource; and

24 WHEREAS, This kind and caring gentleman cherished his family  
25 above all else; he shared a deep bond of love with his wife of nearly  
26 65 years, Patsy, and he derived great joy from the time he spent  
27 with their five children, Stephanie, C. A., Tom, Southern, and

1 Sissy, as well as with their nine grandchildren and their  
2 great-granddaughter; his faith was also a source of great comfort  
3 and inspiration to him throughout his days; and

4 WHEREAS, Although Charlie Winn's hard work and ingenuity made  
5 him a classic American success story, it is perhaps his honesty and  
6 integrity and the close ties of affection he nurtured with his loved  
7 ones that speak most eloquently to the immeasurable impact of his  
8 life; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of C. C. Winn and  
11 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,  
12 Patsy Winn; to his children, Stephanie Winn, C. A. Winn and his  
13 wife, Nancy, Tom Winn and his wife, Melissa, and Southern Winn and  
14 his wife, Cathy; to his grandchildren, Megan Winn and her husband,  
15 Chris Mei, and Cathleen, Dillon, Southern, Cody, Amy, Trey, Sissy,  
16 and Nicole Winn; to his great-granddaughter, Vivian Marie Winn; to  
17 his nieces, Caroline Szepessy, and her husband, Andy, and Charlcie  
18 Goodman; to his nephew, Sedge Middleton; and to his other  
19 relatives, employees, and many dear friends; and, be it further

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