

By: Ashby

H.R. No. 2161

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the  
2 death of former Lufkin city councilman Percy Alvin Simond Jr. on  
3 April 8, 2015, at the age of 97; and

4 WHEREAS, Percy Simond was born on February 22, 1918, to Percy  
5 A. Simond Sr. and Amanda Thomas Simond; he graduated from Dunbar  
6 High School in Lufkin in 1939, and he went on to attend Texas  
7 College in Tyler and to serve his nation in the United States Army;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, In the late 1940s, Mr. Simond moved to Los Angeles,  
10 where he met his future wife, Princella, known affectionately as  
11 "Princess"; they shared nearly 67 years together and were blessed  
12 with a daughter, Sharon; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Simond worked for the U.S. Postal Service, an  
14 automobile dealership, and, for 23 years, for Golden State Mutual  
15 Life Insurance Company; in 1978, he and his wife left California to  
16 return to Lufkin, and he worked as an apartment manager for nearly  
17 three decades until his retirement in 2007; and

18 WHEREAS, A lifetime member of the NAACP, Mr. Simond was  
19 thought to be the first African American city councilman in the  
20 history of Lufkin, and during his exemplary 18-year tenure on the  
21 council, he played a leading role in the building of a new city  
22 hall, increasing the salaries of municipal employees, the  
23 improvement of infrastructure, and many other programs and  
24 initiatives; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Simond was also an active member of the Angelina  
2 Citizens Chamber of Commerce, the Deep East Texas Council of  
3 Governments, the Voters League, and the Urban League, among others;  
4 a man of strong religious faith, he was the chair of the board of  
5 trustees and a member of the steward board at Long Chapel CME  
6 Church; and

7           WHEREAS, Mr. Simond's long record of civic engagement was  
8 honored on numerous occasions; he received the Humanitarian Award  
9 from the Top Ladies of Distinction and the Citizens Chamber Award,  
10 and he was named one of Nine Who Make a Difference by KTRE-TV in  
11 Lufkin; in 2009, three recreation pavilions at the Inez Tims  
12 Village Apartments were named in his honor, in recognition of his  
13 long service as the apartment complex's manager, and on Martin  
14 Luther King Jr. Day in 2010, he was inducted into the Dunbar Hall of  
15 Honor; and

16           WHEREAS, An engaged citizen, a devoted husband, and an  
17 admired community leader, Percy Simond leaves behind a legacy of  
18 good works that will long resonate in the Lufkin community; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Percy Alvin Simond Jr.  
22 and extend sincere condolences to his wife, Princella Parsons  
23 Simond; to his sisters, Lillie B. Simond Davis and Christa B. Simond  
24 Ingram; and to his other relatives and friends; and, be it further

25           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of  
27 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Percy Alvin

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1 Simond Jr.