

By: Ashby

H.R. No. 2256

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The State of Texas lost an admired business leader,
2 conservationist, and public servant with the passing of former
3 railroad commissioner and state representative Arthur "Buddy"
4 Temple III of Lufkin on April 14, 2015, at the age of 73; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Texarkana, Arkansas, on February 26, 1942,
6 Buddy Temple was the son of Mary Temple and Arthur Temple Jr.; he
7 grew up in Lufkin, where he began his education, and he later
8 attended St. Stephens Episcopal School in Austin before graduating
9 from the Lawrenceville School in New Jersey; after studying at The
10 University of Texas at Austin, he enlisted in the United States Army
11 in 1961; he served in the First Cavalry Unit of the First Armored
12 Division as a crew chief and helicopter copilot; and

13 WHEREAS, Following his military service, Mr. Temple returned
14 to East Texas to join Temple Industries and other family-owned
15 businesses; he served on the board of Temple-Eastex and
16 Temple-Inland, and he was president and chair of the Exeter
17 Investment Company and chair of First Bank and Trust East Texas;
18 moreover, he served on the Memorial Health System board, and as
19 chair of the T. L. L. Temple Foundation, he guided numerous
20 philanthropic efforts; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Temple was dedicated to the betterment of East
22 Texas, and he began his career in public service in 1966 as a member
23 of the Diboll school board; during his tenure, he helped marshal the
24 integration of local schools; he went on to represent District 6 in

1 the Texas House of Representatives from 1973 to 1981, and in
2 addition to serving on numerous committees, he was a cosponsor of
3 the 1973 State Code of Ethics and Financial Disclosure for Elected
4 and Appointed Officials, instituted in response to the Sharpstown
5 banking scandal; subsequently, he was a member of the Texas
6 Railroad Commission for five years, and he served a term as its
7 chair; one of his strengths as a leader was his willingness to
8 listen to others; and

9 WHEREAS, After leaving public office, Mr. Temple worked ever
10 more diligently in behalf of his great passion, the preservation of
11 the natural environment in East Texas; he coordinated with the
12 Conservation Fund and International Paper to protect more than
13 19,000 acres of the hardwood forest and wetlands known as Boggy
14 Slough, and he was also on the advisory board of the Caesar Kleberg
15 Wildlife Research Institute in Kingsville; in 2014, he received
16 both the Texas Forest Country Silver Bucket Award from the Texas
17 Forest Country Partnership and the R. E. Jackson Conservation
18 Award from the Big Thicket Association, and his myriad accolades
19 also included the Award for Lifetime Conservation Achievement from
20 the Texas Conservation Alliance, the Texas Leopold Conservation
21 Award for the Temple Ranch from the Texas Parks and Wildlife
22 Department, and the Award for Outstanding Achievement for Neches
23 River Bottomland Conservation from the Houston Audubon Society; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Temple was devoted to his family; he shared
25 nearly 45 years of marriage with his wife, Ellen Clarke Temple, and
26 he was the proud father of four children, Whitney, Susan, Hannah,
27 and John; above all, he treasured time spent with his six

1 grandchildren; and

2 WHEREAS, A visionary steward of Texas lands and a
3 distinguished public servant, Buddy Temple left a tremendous legacy
4 for generations to come, and his life was an inspiring example of
5 all the good that one person can accomplish; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
7 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable
8 Arthur "Buddy" Temple III and extend sincere condolences to the
9 members of his family: to his wife, Ellen Clarke Temple; to his
10 children, Whitney Sage Temple, Susan Helen Temple and her husband,
11 Rob Feagin, Hannah Lea Temple and her husband, Christopher Sanders,
12 and John Clark Hurst Jr.; to his grandchildren, Lillian Katherine
13 Duquette, Walter Temple Duquette, Helen Terrell Feagin, Margaret
14 April Grace, Mary Ellen Sanders, and Robert Abney Sanders; to his
15 mother, Mary Denman; to his sister, Charlotte "Chotsy" Temple; and
16 to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

17 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
18 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
19 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Buddy
20 Temple.