

By: Clardy

H.R. No. 2550

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Landon Alford on December 18, 2013,
2 at the age of 78, concluded a remarkable life of service to the
3 Henderson community; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Dallas, Landon Alford was born on July
5 11, 1935, to John Rogers and Susan Landon Alford; he earned his
6 diploma from Henderson High School in 1953 and enrolled at Southern
7 Methodist University, where he met his future wife, the former
8 Phyllis Potthast; the pair exchanged wedding vows on April 18,
9 1957, and graduated from SMU the following May; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Alford subsequently returned to Henderson and
11 assumed ownership of his family's agriculture business, and he
12 served his country in the United States Air Force and Reserve; named
13 "Young Man of the Year" in Rusk County in 1960, he had by that time
14 begun a highly productive tenure on the board of directors for
15 Citizens National Bank that would go on to span 55 years, including
16 18 years as chair; during that time, the bank grew to encompass 25
17 locations in East and Central Texas with deposits totaling \$1.3
18 billion; he additionally served as secretary-treasurer for the
19 board of Henderson Clay Products until the firm was sold in 1986;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Deeply committed to both his community and greater
22 East Texas, Mr. Alford headed the Texas Good Roads and
23 Transportation Association, and his instrumental role in securing
24 funds for the state highway system earned him the title of "East

1 Texan of the Year" by the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in 1984; he
2 worked extensively with the Texas Department of Transportation to
3 facilitate the improvement of Texas highways, and today, Loop 571
4 in Henderson bears his name as a tribute to his efforts; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Alford served multiple terms on the board of the
6 Henderson Area Chamber of Commerce, and he was a member of the
7 chamber's transportation committee for more than four decades; he
8 further devoted his time as chair of the Henderson Memorial
9 Hospital board and as president of the Henderson Kiwanis Club and
10 the John R. Alford and Susan Landon Alford Foundation, an
11 organization founded by his parents; in 1978, he received the Wes
12 Dean Award for his work with the YMCA in Henderson; and

13 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Alford enjoyed the love
14 and support of his family; during the 56 years of marriage he shared
15 with his wife, he became the proud father of three sons, Eugene,
16 Benson, and David, and he welcomed the arrival of six
17 grandchildren, John, Lauren, Elizabeth, Madeline, Amelia, and
18 Eveline; he was known for his unassuming manner and for the
19 attention and consideration he showed for all people, traits that
20 won him the widespread trust and respect of his fellow citizens; and

21 WHEREAS, Landon Alford was a man of compassion, integrity,
22 and dedication whose contributions to his community had a profound
23 and positive impact on those around him, and although he is deeply
24 missed, his legacy continues to resonate in the city he was proud to
25 call home; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
27 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Landon Alford and

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1 extend sincere sympathy to all those who have mourned the passing of
2 this esteemed Texan; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
5 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Landon
6 Alford.