

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Sid Blanks thrilled countless fans during an
2 outstanding career as a college and professional football player;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Del Rio, Mr. Blanks starred at San Felipe
5 High School as a four-year letterman in four different sports, and
6 he remains the school's only alumnus to play football
7 professionally in both the American and National Football Leagues;
8 his legacy was recognized by his hometown in 2014, when the Del Rio
9 City Council unanimously voted to name a city park in his honor; and

10 WHEREAS, Taking his talents to Texas A&I University in 1960,
11 Mr. Blanks was a member of the Javelina track and field squad, but
12 it was on the gridiron that he truly made his mark; the first
13 African American to play football on scholarship at a predominantly
14 white school in the State of Texas as well as the first to compete in
15 the Lone Star Conference, he became a two-time All-American and a
16 four-time All-Conference selection as a halfback, establishing a
17 number of school and conference records along the way; he was
18 inducted into the Javelina Hall of Fame in 1981 and the LSC Hall of
19 Fame in 2002; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Blanks began his pro career in 1964 with the
21 AFL's Houston Oilers, rushing for 756 yards and adding nearly 500
22 receiving yards to earn a spot on the league's All-Star squad as a
23 rookie; on December 13 of that same year, he set a team record with a
24 91-yard run against the New York Jets; in 1969, he joined the Boston

1 Patriots, also of the AFL; after the AFL was absorbed by the NFL the
2 following year, he played one more season with the Patriots before
3 retiring in 1970; and

4 WHEREAS, A trailblazing athlete who achieved success at the
5 high school, college, and professional levels, Sid Blanks is a
6 source of pride to football fans across the Lone Star State; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
9 Legislature hereby honor Sid Blanks on his accomplishments in
10 football and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued
11 happiness; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for Mr. Blanks as an expression of high regard by the Texas
14 House of Representatives.

Nevárez

H.R. No. 2834

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2834 was adopted by the House on May 21, 2015, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House