

By: Nevárez

H.R. No. 2834

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.