

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, In recognition of his superlative achievements as a  
2 coach, Fred Kniffen was inducted into the Intercollegiate Tennis  
3 Association Men's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame at an enshrinement  
4 banquet in Waco on May 20, 2015; and

5           WHEREAS, A native of Clyde, Fred Kniffen was an outstanding  
6 player at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, helping the  
7 school's tennis program to attain national prominence by winning  
8 Border Conference singles and doubles titles in 1957 and 1958; and

9           WHEREAS, After beginning his career in coaching at Abilene  
10 Cooper High School, Mr. Kniffen was named head coach at Tyler  
11 Junior College in 1973; he guided the Apaches to four national  
12 championships and helped 31 players earn Junior College  
13 All-American honors; and

14           WHEREAS, Coach Kniffen was hired by The University of Texas  
15 at Tyler in 1985, and during his nine years with the Patriots tennis  
16 program, his players claimed two National Association of  
17 Intercollegiate Athletics team championships as well as one  
18 national title in singles and one in doubles; in addition, UT Tyler  
19 won the NAIA District 4 crown each season that he was at the helm;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Repeatedly honored for his ability to inspire his  
22 athletes, Coach Kniffen earned numerous national coach of the year  
23 awards during his impressive tenure in college tennis; moreover, he  
24 has been inducted into the Tyler Junior College Sports Circle of

1 Honor and the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, and he has also been named  
2 as a hall of fame honoree by UT Tyler Athletics, the NAIA, the Texas  
3 Tennis Coaches Association, and Hardin-Simmons University; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the course of his stellar career, Fred Kniffen  
5 led his teams to great success and made a positive difference in the  
6 lives of hundreds of student-athletes, and he has earned a place  
7 among the legendary coaches of the Lone Star State; now, therefore,  
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby congratulate Fred Kniffen on his induction into  
11 the ITA Men's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame and extend to him  
12 sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

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

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H.R. No. 3226

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 3226 was adopted by the House on May 30, 2015, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House