

By: Thompson of Harris

H.R. No. 3419

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A life filled with meaningful service drew to a
2 close with the passing of the Honorable Gordon Arnold Jr. of Austin
3 on May 23, 2015, at the age of 65; and

4 WHEREAS, "Doc" Arnold was born to Marjorie Arnold Sitek and
5 Gordon Arnold on September 8, 1949, in Richmond, Virginia; he
6 attended Baylor University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in
7 political science and a juris doctor degree, and then embarked on a
8 long and successful career in the public arena; following law
9 school, he worked initially as an attorney for the Terrell
10 Independent School District and later for the City of Terrell; and

11 WHEREAS, Desiring to do even more for his community,
12 Mr. Arnold successfully sought election as a state representative
13 in 1982 and held office from 1983 to 1985; during his tenure, he
14 served on a number of committees, including the House Calendars
15 Committee and the House Task Force on Indigent Health Care, of which
16 he was vice chair; in 1985, he resigned his seat to become chief of
17 staff to speaker of the house of representatives Gib Lewis;
18 Mr. Arnold remained in that post until 1988, when he established a
19 private law practice in Austin; over the ensuing years, he became a
20 trusted advisor to clients in legislative, regulatory, and
21 political matters; and

22 WHEREAS, Doc Arnold was the devoted husband of Elaine Arnold,
23 with whom he shared a marriage that spanned 26 years, and the loving
24 father of Erin, Jeff, and Kaitlyn; always supportive of his

1 children's interests, he coached Little League Baseball and served
2 as president of the Booster Club at Anderson High School; he also
3 served on several boards, including the McMurry University Board of
4 Trustees; in his spare time, he enjoyed pursuing his passion for
5 history and spending time in the out-of-doors; and

6 WHEREAS, This esteemed Texan achieved a life that was rich in
7 family, friends, and service to his state and his community, and
8 those who were blessed to share in his love and affection will
9 forever hold him close in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
11 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Gordon Arnold Jr. and
12 extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his wife,
13 Elaine Arnold; to his children, Erin, Jeff, and Kaitlyn Arnold; to
14 his brother, Jeff Arnold, and his wife, Louise; to his sister,
15 Marjorie McLaughlin, and her husband, John; to his sister-in-law
16 Suzanne Martin and brother-in-law Kelly Martin; to his nieces and
17 nephews, Megan, Wade, Emily, Julia, and Will Arnold, Rachael
18 Morgan, and Travis, Preston, and Merritt Martin; to his
19 father-in-law and mother-in-law, Tom and Betty Hardin; and to his
20 other relatives and many friends; and, be it further

21 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
22 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
23 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of the
24 Honorable Gordon "Doc" Arnold Jr.