

By: Wu

H.R. No. 155

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The passing of Judge Earl Kent Ellis of Houston on
2 July 2, 2017, at the age of 78, concluded a life of professional
3 achievement and dedicated public service; and

4 WHEREAS, Born in Neosho, Missouri, on November 24, 1938, to
5 Jewell William and Irene Lucille Ellis, Kent Ellis grew up on his
6 family's farm outside of Dill City, Oklahoma; on New Year's Day in
7 1960, he exchanged wedding vows with the former Oreta Cammell, and
8 the couple went on to enjoy 57 rewarding years of marriage; they
9 became the proud parents of three children, Mark, Angela, and
10 James, and were blessed later in life with eight grandchildren and
11 two great-grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Ellis graduated from The University of Texas at
13 Austin before earning his law degree from the South Texas College of
14 Law in Houston; from 1980 to 1985, he served as an assistant
15 district attorney in the Harris County District Attorney's Office,
16 and he subsequently entered private practice as an attorney for
17 several years; in 1994, he won election as a state district judge in
18 the state's 315th District Court, which specializes in juvenile
19 cases; voters returned him to office in 1998 and 2002, and during
20 his 12 years of exemplary service, he gained a reputation as a fair
21 and compassionate jurist; and

22 WHEREAS, A man of strong faith, Judge Ellis served for many
23 years as a minister and elder in various Church of Christ
24 congregations in Oklahoma and Texas offering helpful guidance to

1 numerous individuals as they pursued their spiritual paths; he drew
2 on his vast knowledge of the Bible to deliver eloquent and inspiring
3 sermons, and he was likewise an exceptional writer on various
4 topics related to the Christian faith; and

5 WHEREAS, Judge Kent Ellis made a meaningful difference in
6 countless lives, and his unwavering commitment to his profession,
7 his faith, and his loved ones will be remembered and admired for
8 years to come; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
10 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
11 Judge Earl Kent Ellis and extend heartfelt sympathy to his family
12 and friends; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
15 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Judge Kent
16 Ellis.