

By: Kacal

H.R. No. 361

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The city of College Station lost a greatly admired  
2 citizen with the passing of oilman and philanthropist Emil Eugene  
3 Ogden on July 25, 2017, at the age of 89; and

4           WHEREAS, Born in Blackwell, Oklahoma, on September 15, 1927,  
5 Emil Ogden was the only son of Homer and Mary Ogden; his childhood  
6 was marked by hardship, and those early experiences played a part in  
7 shaping the character and resolve that would contribute to his  
8 success in later life; he served his country in World War II, and he  
9 went on to play minor league baseball for the Odessa Oilers before  
10 setting out to make a living for himself in the oil fields; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Ogden was an independent oilman in Abilene for  
12 28 years; beginning his career as a wildcatter, he supplemented his  
13 income by coaching junior high basketball and playing the trumpet  
14 in a big band orchestra to make ends meet; his determination  
15 sustained him through the "boom and bust" cycle, and after moving to  
16 Bryan-College Station in 1979, he was instrumental in developing  
17 the Bryan Woodbine Field, one of the most significant oil  
18 discoveries in Texas in the 1980s; along the way, he won the  
19 loyalty, respect, and affection of numerous associates and  
20 employees, some of whom became his lifelong friends; and

21           WHEREAS, Despite his fortune, Mr. Ogden never lost sight of  
22 his humble roots, and he gave generously to a variety of  
23 organizations benefiting citizens in need; he also actively  
24 volunteered his time in leadership positions, which included

1 serving as a reserve criminal investigations deputy with the Brazos  
2 County Sheriff's Office, as president of the West Texas Oil & Gas  
3 Association, as an Abilene City Council member, and in numerous  
4 other board and committee positions; his Catholic faith was a  
5 central pillar of his life, and he dedicated a great deal of his  
6 time and resources to the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish; and

7 WHEREAS, A man who exemplified the values of hard work and  
8 perseverance, Emil Ogden leaves behind a record of service that  
9 will long resonate in the community and that his loved ones can  
10 remember with pride; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
12 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of  
13 Emil Eugene Ogden and extend deepest condolences to the members of  
14 his family: to his wife of nearly seven decades, Clementine Ogden;  
15 to his children, Stephen Ogden and his wife, Beverly, Mary  
16 Katherine Buttry and her husband, Jimmy, Paul Ogden and his wife,  
17 Beth, Michael Ogden and his wife, Sarah, Joseph Ogden and his wife,  
18 Karen, and Laura Young and her husband, Warren; to his 23  
19 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; and to his other  
20 relatives and 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 Emil Ogden.