

By: Button

H.R. No. 300

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, A full and generous life drew to a close with the
2 death of Donald Benjamin Fielding of Dallas, who passed away on
3 January 20, 2017, at the age of 94; and

4 WHEREAS, Donald Fielding was born in Dallas on July 7, 1922,
5 to Nathan and Bessie Finkelstein; he graduated as valedictorian
6 from Forest Avenue High School at the age of 15, and that same year
7 enrolled in the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania,
8 in pursuit of a career in the foreign service; and

9 WHEREAS, After graduating from the Wharton School in 1942,
10 Mr. Fielding attended the University of Havana briefly before his
11 induction into the U.S. Army; he attended the Infantry Officer
12 Candidate School and went on to serve as an operations and training
13 staff officer until his discharge at the rank of second lieutenant
14 in 1946; and

15 WHEREAS, Returning to Dallas, Mr. Fielding joined the family
16 business, National Shoes, where he worked for 42 years, opening
17 several additional locations in 1958, 1968, and 1977; he was also
18 active in Dallas politics from the 1960s until the 1990s, with a
19 particular interest in education, and he played a leading role in
20 the establishment of such advocacy organizations as the Citizens'
21 Committee for Better Schools, Citizens for Representative
22 Government, and the League for Educational Advancement in Dallas;
23 he was also active with the Boy Scouts of America, which he served
24 in several leadership positions, including chair of the High Trail

1 Scout District; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Fielding married Virginia Lee Tipton in 1950,
3 and they shared their lives for 63 years, until her death in 2013;
4 the couple were the proud parents of four children, Ronnie, Linda,
5 B. Donald, and Paul, and they were blessed with many grandchildren
6 and great-grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, A devoted family man and an engaged citizen, Donald
8 Fielding lived a life rich with purpose, and he leaves behind a
9 record of service that his loved ones can remember with pride; now,
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
12 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Donald Benjamin
13 Fielding and extend sincere condolences to his relatives and
14 friends; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
16 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
17 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Donald
18 Fielding.