

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 605

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, James Cleo Thompson Jr. is being honored for his
2 notable career in the oil and gas industry with his posthumous
3 induction into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on May 9, 2017; and

4 WHEREAS, The Petroleum Hall of Fame, which is based at the
5 Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in Midland, honors individuals who
6 have made outstanding contributions to the development of the
7 petroleum industry or who have inspired others through their
8 achievements, service, or strength of character; and

9 WHEREAS, A native of Dallas, Jimmie Thompson was born on
10 August 25, 1930, and he went on to study engineering and geology at
11 Southern Methodist University; following his graduation, he
12 planned to pursue further education at SMU Law School, but in 1952,
13 he and his father purchased several oil leases near Crane, and that
14 purchase led to the founding of Thompson Petroleum Corporation; and

15 WHEREAS, In the decades that followed, Mr. Thompson was
16 credited with the discovery, development, and unitization of
17 numerous oil fields across the Permian Basin, and he was the
18 operator of nearly 1,000 wells and held interests in about 9,000; in
19 2001, he was named "Chief Roughneck" by the Independent Petroleum
20 Association of America, and he was recognized as a "Dallas Oil
21 Legend" by the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers in 2005; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson served on the Society of Petroleum
23 Engineers, the Natural Gas Committee of the IPAA, and the advisory
24 committee for the National Petroleum Council; he also shared his

1 time and talents with myriad educational institutions, including
2 the board of trustees at SMU and the board of the Howard Payne
3 University Academy of Freedom; moreover, he supported the
4 educational endeavors of future generations as chair of the Hatton
5 W. Sumners Foundation, which grants scholarships to students
6 studying law and government, and in 1990, he endowed the Thompson
7 Law Scholarships Program; and

8 WHEREAS, Texas lost this esteemed business and civic leader
9 when he passed away on November 19, 2010, at the age of 80; and

10 WHEREAS, For nearly six decades, Mr. Thompson distinguished
11 himself as a successful and innovative figure in an industry that is
12 such a vital part of the Texas economy, and it is indeed appropriate
13 to take this opportunity to recognize him for his many
14 accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor the memory of James Cleo Thompson Jr. on
17 the occasion of his posthumous induction into the Petroleum Hall of
18 Fame and pay tribute to him for his professional achievements and
19 his service in behalf of education in Texas; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
21 prepared for Mr. Thompson's family as an expression of high regard
22 by the Texas House of Representatives.