

By: Cyrier

H.R. No. 787

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Colonel Joe Tom Haney, former band director at Texas
2 A&M University, passed away on March 9, 2016, at the age of 88,
3 leaving behind a remarkable legacy of service to the Aggie
4 community; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Colorado City, Texas, on August 19, 1927,
6 Joe Haney was the son of Clyde and Vista Mae Haney; after his father
7 died unexpectedly, he moved with his mother to Marlin, where she
8 worked as a bookkeeper and taught her son piano; she also wrote
9 children's plays for a local Presbyterian school, which provided
10 Mr. Haney with his first experiences composing music; he went on to
11 play trombone in the Marlin High School Band; and

12 WHEREAS, Following his graduation in 1944, he enrolled at
13 Texas A&M and joined the band, but he was soon drafted into the
14 United States Army; he served for 14 months in Korea, playing first
15 trombone in the 282nd Army Band, before his honorable discharge in
16 1947; returning to his studies, he earned a bachelor's degree in
17 music from Southern Methodist University in 1950, and he also
18 completed a master's degree at Sam Houston State University in
19 1954; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Haney began his career as a band director at
21 Hemphill High School, and he later led bands in Calvert, Wharton,
22 and Mexia with considerable success in UIL competitions; in 1972,
23 he was invited to become the associate director of the Fightin'
24 Texas Aggie Band; the following year, he organized the Texas A&M

1 University Symphonic Band, opening participation to students
2 outside of the Corps of Cadets; among his many influential
3 achievements, he composed the signature song of the Aggie Band,
4 "Noble Men of Kyle," and he wrote an arrangement of "The Spirit of
5 Aggieland" that has been performed at all university football games
6 since 1968; and

7 WHEREAS, Colonel Haney's outstanding contributions to the
8 Aggie Band were acknowledged with the renaming of the band's drill
9 field in his honor; on his retirement as band director in 1989, he
10 was bestowed the title of director emeritus by the A&M Board of
11 Regents, and he was further recognized with the Former Students
12 Distinguished Achievement Award and the BMI Music in Sports Award;
13 in all his endeavors, he enjoyed the love and support of his wife,
14 Mary, with whom he shared 62 years of marriage; and

15 WHEREAS, Over the course of a long and successful career, Joe
16 Haney exemplified the highest standards of excellence and
17 commitment to his calling, and he will be remembered with great
18 admiration and affection for many years to come; now, therefore, be
19 it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
21 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Colonel Joe Tom Haney
22 and extend sincere sympathy to all those who mourn his passing; and,
23 be it further

24 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
25 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
26 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Joe Haney.