

By: Springer

H.R. No. 897

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Stiles family has been an integral part of the
2 ranching community in the Texas Panhandle for more than a century;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The family traces its roots in the livestock
5 business to July 1901, when William Gordon Stiles bought land near
6 Wheeler from Judge F. M. Patton; the Stiles Ranch was initially a
7 cow-calf operation that raised Shorthorn and Hereford cattle, but
8 in 1910, Mr. Stiles acquired the first of the Aberdeen Angus breed
9 that became the ranch's signature; and

10 WHEREAS, William Gordon Stiles II and his wife, Ora Belinda,
11 subsequently took over the ranch; the couple's children, Sandra,
12 Sharon, Bill, and Bob, were introduced to the family business at a
13 young age, and in time, members of this generation began overseeing
14 the property; and

15 WHEREAS, Remaining true to her heritage, Sandra Stiles
16 Christner ran a farm in Hemphill County with her husband, Tom, and
17 the pair later purchased a ranch in Oklahoma; they moved to Wheeler
18 in 1973, and seven years later, they bought a ranch near Mobeetie;
19 Mrs. Christner continued to run that property after her husband's
20 death in 1986, and she played an active role in ranch operations
21 over the years through her skills as a horsewoman, often riding her
22 beloved mustang, Aggie, to help round up cattle; the devoted mother
23 of four children, Cynthia, Tom, Elise, and Vaughan, she has been a
24 member of First United Methodist Church and the Top-O-Texas

1 Cowbells, and she has also distinguished herself as an accomplished
2 Western artist; and

3 WHEREAS, The role of the family ranch in Texas history is both
4 important and long-standing, and the members of the Stiles family
5 are indeed deserving of recognition for helping to carry forward
6 the legacy that was begun and nurtured by their ancestors in decades
7 past; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
9 Legislature hereby honor the Stiles family for its enduring
10 involvement in Texas ranching and extend to Sandra Stiles Christner
11 and the other members of the family sincere best wishes for the
12 future; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
14 prepared for the family as an expression of high regard by the Texas
15 House of Representatives.