

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 1648

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Midland lost a pillar of its business
2 community with the death of Marvin Lewis Wynn, who passed away on
3 April 12, 2017, at the age of 83; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Albert Goldman Wynn and Annie Alvis
5 Hathcock Wynn, Marvin Wynn was born in Lexington, Mississippi, on
6 October 11, 1933; he grew up in poverty and was able to attend
7 Mississippi Southern College for only a year before his education
8 was interrupted by financial constraints; with a young family to
9 support, he was determined to better himself, so he enrolled in
10 night and weekend classes and completed his bachelor's degree in
11 accounting at Mississippi College in 1964; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Wynn began his career with the Mid-Mississippi
13 Development District, and he was then hired as executive director
14 of the Forrest County Development Board in Hattiesburg; after
15 graduating with the first class of the Economic Development
16 Institute at the University of Oklahoma, he earned the Certified
17 Economic Developer designation and joined the Tulsa Chamber of
18 Commerce as vice president of economic development; over the course
19 of more than 13 years in this role, he was instrumental in helping
20 the city to diversify its economy; he later spent a few years in the
21 private sector as vice president and general manager of a real
22 estate firm; deeply committed to the community, he assisted in the
23 establishment of the Tulsa Industrial Authority and served as its
24 chair and general manager; the organization provided \$325 million

1 in tax-exempt financing for over 100 companies during his 18 years
2 on its board; and

3 WHEREAS, From 1987 to 1994, Mr. Wynn was chief operating
4 officer of the Wichita/Sedgwick County Partnership for Growth in
5 Wichita, Kansas; under his guidance, the organization received the
6 prestigious Excellence in Economic Development Award from the
7 Arthur D. Little Company; Mr. Wynn was then named chief executive
8 officer of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, and he recruited many
9 major employers; a master of planning, strategy, communications,
10 and building personal relationships, he worked tirelessly, often
11 behind the scenes, to bring many vital initiatives to fruition,
12 among them the Midland International Airport Terminal, the visitors
13 center, the Scharbauer Sports Complex, and the economic development
14 sales tax; he was widely recognized as one of the country's leaders
15 in economic development; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Wynn served his profession at the state,
17 regional, and national levels; he was president of the Southern
18 Economic Development Council and of the Kansas Industrial
19 Development Association, and he served on the board of the Texas
20 Chamber of Commerce Executives; in 2001, he received the TCCE
21 Marvin Hurley Award for his contributions to his field; his
22 numerous accolades further included life membership in the Midland
23 Chamber of Commerce; despite his many responsibilities, he made
24 time to serve on the board of Senior Link Midland, and he was a
25 member of the Downtown Midland Rotary Club and the First United
26 Methodist Church of Midland; and

27 WHEREAS, Devoted to his family, Mr. Wynn took great pride in

1 his sons, Marc and Alan, and in his grandchildren, Cooper, Reece,
2 Hannah, and Helena; he shared a fulfilling marriage of 40 years with
3 his wife, Susan Gish Wynn, who gave him the nickname "Mr. Amazing";
4 he credited her with providing crucial support for his professional
5 accomplishments, and their partnership grew even closer as he met
6 the challenge of Parkinson's disease with characteristic courage,
7 humor, and resolve; following his retirement in 2004, he continued
8 to give generously of his time and expertise to the community, and
9 he enjoyed taking trips to visit family, gathering with friends,
10 and cheering for his Oklahoma Sooners; and

11 WHEREAS, Marvin Wynn made a lasting, positive difference in
12 the lives of his fellow citizens through his exceptional
13 achievements in economic development, and those who were fortunate
14 enough to know him will continue to find inspiration in his wisdom,
15 dedication, and integrity; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life of Marvin Lewis Wynn and
18 extend sincere condolences to his loved ones; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
21 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Marvin
22 Wynn.