

By: Murr

H.R. No. 2005

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Family and friends will forever treasure their
2 memories of John William Zerr of Hondo, who passed away on April 22,
3 2017, at the age of 72; and

4 WHEREAS, The son of Arnold and Lucine Zerr, John Zerr was born
5 in Hondo on January 20, 1945, and grew up with the companionship of
6 his brother, Bernard, and his four sisters, Patsy, Mary Alice,
7 Frances, and Molly; as a boy, he served as the mascot of the Mighty
8 Hondo Owls football team, and he went on to play for the varsity
9 team at Hondo High School for four years and to lead the squad as
10 captain; though his dream of playing professional football was
11 ended by an injury in his senior year, he went on to become a highly
12 respected athletic trainer and teacher at his alma mater, where he
13 earned the affectionate nickname "Doc"; and

14 WHEREAS, Over the course of an outstanding career that
15 spanned four decades, Mr. Zerr helped develop numerous training
16 devices that are still widely used; he was the first high school
17 trainer to be appointed chair of the annual National Athletic
18 Trainers' Association convention, which presented him with the
19 Everett Blackburn Award for his contributions to the field, and he
20 served as a special consultant to the Rawlings Sporting Goods
21 Advisory Board from 1979 to 1986; in addition to cultivating
22 associations with a number of professional football teams, he
23 mentored several trainers who went on to work with the Dallas
24 Cowboys, the Philadelphia Eagles, and the San Francisco 49ers; and

1 WHEREAS, In all his endeavors, Mr. Zerr enjoyed the love and
2 support of his wife of 50 years, Mary, his two children, Marc and
3 Amy, and his honorary German son, Thorsten Holtz; later in life, he
4 was further blessed with four treasured grandchildren, Jake,
5 Jordan, Lillian, and Reece; a devout Catholic since early
6 childhood, he helped found the ACTS Missions in Hondo, and he spent
7 his leisure hours farming, ranching, and cooking delicious meals
8 for his loved ones; and

9 WHEREAS, Deeply devoted to his family, his faith, and his
10 career, John Zerr brightened the lives of all who knew him through
11 his warmth, generosity, and unwavering integrity, and he will
12 forever hold a special place in their hearts; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
14 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of John William Zerr
15 and extend heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and friends; and, be
16 it further

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